

Polis	Sanchez, Loretta	Thornberry
Pompeo	Sarbanes	Tiberi
Posey	Scalise	Tierney
Price (GA)	Schakowsky	Tipton
Price (NC)	Schiff	Tonko
Quayle	Schilling	Towns
Quigley	Schock	Tsongas
Rahall	Schrader	Turner (NY)
Rangel	Schwartz	Turner (OH)
Reed	Schweikert	Upton
Rehberg	Scott (SC)	Van Hollen
Reichert	Scott (VA)	Velázquez
Renacci	Scott, Austin	Visclosky
Reyes	Scott, David	Walberg
Ribble	Sensenbrenner	Walden
Richardson	Serrano	Walsh (IL)
Richmond	Sessions	Walz (MN)
Rigell	Sewell	Wasserman
Rivera	Sherman	Schultz
Roby	Shimkus	Waters
Roe (TN)	Shuler	Watt
Rogers (AL)	Shuster	Waxman
Rogers (KY)	Simpson	Webster
Rogers (MI)	Sires	Welch
Rohrabacher	Slaughter	West
Rokita	Smith (NE)	Westmoreland
Rooney	Smith (NJ)	Whitfield
Ros-Lehtinen	Smith (TX)	Wilson (FL)
Roskam	Smith (WA)	Wilson (SC)
Ross (AR)	Southerland	Wittman
Ross (FL)	Speier	Wolf
Rothman (NJ)	Stark	Womack
Roybal-Allard	Stearns	Woodall
Royce	Stivers	Woolsey
Ryunan	Stutzman	Yarmuth
Ruppersberger	Sullivan	Yoder
Rush	Sutton	Young (AK)
Ryan (OH)	Terry	Young (FL)
Ryan (WI)	Thompson (CA)	Young (IN)
Sánchez, Linda T.	Thompson (MS)	
	Thompson (PA)	

NOT VOTING—14

Bachmann	Frank (MA)	McKinley
Canseco	Garamendi	Miller (FL)
Doyle	Giffords	Paul
Filner	Hartzler	Schmidt
Flores	Keating	

□ 1808

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 881, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 10, REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN NEED OF SCRUTINY ACT OF 2011

Mr. NUGENT, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112–311) on the resolution (H. Res. 479) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 10) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI GOLDEN EAGLES TAKE ON HOUSTON COUGARS

(Mr. PALAZZO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, this weekend the 10–2 University of Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles are going to be traveling to Houston, Texas, to win the Conference U.S. Championship Game. As a fourth generation Golden Eagle, I would like to place a friendly wager with my colleague from Houston, Texas—a gallon of Mary Mahoney’s famous seafood gumbo—that we will walk away victorious.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. PALAZZO. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I am a proud Cougar, and as you well know, Cougars are silent, fast, and deadly. We welcome Southern Miss to Houston, Texas, the 12–0 Cougars, and we plan to give you all the barbecue you can eat as we celebrate the victory of the great Cougars, University of Houston, academic and athletic champions. It’s a pleasure to place this wager with you tonight. Cougars—ready to pounce on you.

Mr. PALAZZO. Well, our Golden Eagles’ talons are going to be out. They’re going to be ready. They’re going to be sharp, and we’re going to rip you all to shreds. I accept your wager.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Peace in the valley. Victory for the Cougars.

□ 1810

POSTAL REFORM LEGISLATION

(Mr. CRAWFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, in fiscal year 2011, the United States Postal Service brought in \$65.7 billion in revenue but spent \$70.6 billion. When counting a \$5.5 billion mandatory payment to fund retiree health benefits, which they would have defaulted on already were it not for the extensions on the payment, the postal service ran a deficit of \$10.6 billion.

In an attempt to cut costs, the postal service has announced that it’s considering closing over 3,600 post offices, the large majority of which are rural. By the postal service’s own numbers, they would only save \$200 million annually if they were to close each of these post offices.

This is kind of like asking a family of four that makes \$65,700 a year and adds \$10,600 in credit card, and then only cuts \$200 from their annual budget to get their finances under control.

Last month I visited the Grubbs and Sedgwick post offices, two of the 100 post offices that are being considered for closure in my rural district. Residents in both towns told me about the important role that their post office plays in their communities.

In order to prevent the post office from unfairly targeting rural communities, I recently introduced H.R. 3370, the Protecting our Rural Post Offices Act of 2011. The legislation would pre-

vent the postal service from closing any post office that does not have an alternate post office within 8 miles driving.

VOTER SUPPRESSION

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, it’s bad enough that the people who control this body aren’t interested in creating jobs for the American people. But now, if people want new leadership in the House, if they want a Congress that will finally focus on job creation, they’re foiled by restrictive election laws designed to suppress the vote.

Guess which populations are disenfranchised by strict photo ID requirements and other barriers to political participation?

It’s not the wealthiest 1 percent. It’s not the affluent and the comfortable. It’s not, frankly, the base of the Republican Party. It’s disproportionately communities of color and low-income families who are having their rights undermined and even stripped away.

These laws, passing in State after State, are underhanded. They’re an attempt to consolidate political power. They are unfair, undemocratic. And voting rights are among the most precious privileges that we have as citizens, and they must be protected.

LARRY MUNSON

(Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as a University of Georgia graduate and lifelong Bulldog fan, I’d like to pay tribute to a fallen legend in the Bulldog Nation. Last week, Larry Munson passed away at the great age of 89.

From an announcer for Major League Baseball to a U.S. Army medic during World War II, Larry Munson was a leader and a hero. However, he’ll best be known for his time spent as a radio football announcer for the Georgia Bulldogs.

For over 40 years, his passionate and authentic sportscasting set him apart from every other sports broadcaster. In fact, many of his phrases have become a part of Bulldog fan lore. From Herschel Walker running over people, to Kevin Butler’s 100,000-mile field goal, Larry Munson’s radio calls will live as some of the most memorable in college football.

Georgia Bulldog fans will never forget the sugar falling out of the sky and the hobnail boot. Thus, with the Georgia Bulldogs and the LSU Tigers to square off this weekend in the SEC championship, I end with the words Bulldog fans are used to hearing from Mr. Munson each and every game day:

“As we prepare for another meeting between the hedges, let all the Bulldog

faithful rally behind the men who now wear the red and black with two words, two simple words which express the sentiments of the entire Bulldog Nation: Go Dawgs.”

DEMANDING RELEASE OF ALAN GROSS FROM CUBAN PRISON

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today is the second anniversary of the unfair and brutal incarceration by the Cuban regime of Alan Gross, an American citizen; and I urge his immediate release.

Alan Gross is 62 years old and, in a trumped-up trial, was given 15 years in prison. Alan Gross has worked in international development in over 50 countries through the past several years and was in Cuba to aid the tiny Jewish community with telecommunications and Internet services when he was arrested and accused of being an American spy. This is a new low even for the Cuban regime. This is a new low even for the Castro brothers.

Alan Gross's wife and family need him. His mother was just diagnosed with inoperable cancer, and his daughter was also diagnosed with cancer. They need him back.

We demand him back. He is an American citizen, and we are watching and the whole world is watching. Alan Gross should not be incarcerated for doing nothing except trying to help a very tiny community in Cuba. And I demand his immediate release.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I think there are four things the United States of America needs to do to turn the economy around.

Number one, we need to balance the budget. We can do this on a bipartisan basis just by reducing the duplications in government and the overlap between State functions and Federal functions; also getting through the waste, and then trimming off 1 percent over time to bring revenues and spending at the same level. Right now spending is at 23 percent. Revenues historically have been at 18 percent. Common sense says you need to balance those out.

Number two, we need to get rid of the regulatory overload on businesses that are creating the jobs right now. Change regulations from an “I gotcha” mentality to one that “we’re here to help because we’re in it together,” for worker safety, environmental protection or whatever. We can do a lot just by changing the attitude of the regulators.

Number three, we need tax reform, tax simplification so that taxes are fair. The Tax Code needs to be a half an

inch deep and miles and miles wide so that everyone is participating. Let's get rid of the underbrush, all the loopholes.

Number four, and finally we need to drill our own oil. We cannot keep importing 65 percent of our oil. We need to have an all-of-the-above energy policy.

FIXING MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT RATE

(Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of the 600,000 Medicare beneficiaries in Connecticut and the thousands of physicians who care for them. We need to take up a bill in this Congress over the next several weeks to finally fix the flawed Medicare sustainable growth rate formula.

Since 2003, for almost a decade, physicians have been dealing with the uncertainty that comes with scheduled annual rate reductions. They're staring at a 28 percent reduction right now. That means about \$28,000 per year per Connecticut physician.

If this were to happen, it would happen at the worst possible time. With all the baby boomers coming on to the Medicare rolls, there would be a lot of physicians who just couldn't take Medicare patients any longer. They'd likely have to lay off workers at a time when we already have 9 percent unemployment in Connecticut and across the Nation.

This is unacceptable and we have to do something about it. So over the next several weeks, let's fix this once and for all. Let's stand together as a Congress and put an end to this outdated system and provide some certainty and security for America's seniors and America's physicians.

□ 1820

URGING SENATE ACTION ON JOBS LEGISLATION

(Mr. MICA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, it's time for the other body to act.

The Republican-controlled House of Representatives has a plan for putting Americans back to work. We've moved on more than 20 pieces of legislation that now sit idly in the other body. We have provisions that will empower small businesses—the great job creators of America. We have provisions that will fix the Tax Code to help create jobs. We have provisions that will help manufacturing to have jobs in America, not overseas. We have provisions that will encourage entrepreneurship and growth and maximize American energy production. And all of

these measures sit over in the other body.

I call on the leadership of the other body and all Members to get this legislation moving forward. There are millions of people without jobs, and they need us to act not later but now.

And finally, I call on them to help finalize a 4½-year-old, with more than 21 extensions, FAA bill that still languishes. It's time to stop the nonsense and get America back to work.

Let's pass these bills held hostage.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MEEHAN). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, thank you.

My name is KEITH ELLISON, cochair of the Progressive Caucus, and I do hereby claim this Special Order hour on behalf of the Progressive Caucus.

Right away, I'd like to introduce my good friend from the great State of Georgia, Congressman HANK JOHNSON, who has served with distinction along with me since 2007. Congressman JOHNSON is the whip of the Progressive Caucus. Tonight we're going to be talking about jobs, income inequality, and we're going to be talking about this issue on behalf of the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

Our Web page is right here at the bottom of this document that I'm showing, Mr. Speaker. So we do encourage people to sign up and get ahold of us.

In the very beginning of this hour, I want to recognize my friend from Georgia so that he can make some introductory remarks about the importance of jobs, just as soon as he's ready to take it on.

If the gentleman is prepared to make some opening and preliminary remarks about the importance of jobs, economic justice in the American middle class, I would like to yield to the gentleman to take it away there.

Congressman JOHNSON.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. I thank the gentleman from Minnesota, my junior in the House. When I say that, I mean we're both juniors, having served now in our third terms. We will be officially recognized, I guess if we're fortunate to make it back for the 113th Congress, that will be our fourth term. We will be seniors, and we will be permanent seniors as long as the voters allow us to be. And we certainly want to do what the voters want us to do here.

What the voters of the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia tell me over and over and over again, day in and day out, 24-7, is that jobs is the issue, and they want us to pass the President's job creation bill. They don't understand why simple proposals that will create jobs and reinvigorate