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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FOXX).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 14, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable VIRGINIA FOXX to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. We ask Your special blessing upon the Members of this people's House. They face difficult decisions in difficult times with many forces and interests demanding their attention.

Give them generosity to enter into their work. May they serve You in the work they do as You deserve; give of themselves and not count the cost; fight for what is best for our Nation and not count the political wounds; toil until their work is done and not seek to rest; and labor without seeking any reward, other than knowing they are doing Your will and serving the people of this great Nation.

Bless them, O God, and be with them and with us all this day and every day to come. May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BURGESS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

SUPREME COURT TO DECIDE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF HEALTH CARE LAW

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, today the Supreme Court announced plans to take up a judicial review of the President's health care law, the so-called Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. This was signed into law in March of 2010.

Now the Justices will consider if the Federal Government—indeed, the United States Congress—exceeded its authority by requiring that every American purchase health insurance by 2014.

The American people have made it very clear throughout this process: Give us the reforms that will address the problems, but don't tinker with what is already working well. What people wanted was not a 2,900-page bill that shatters the system that was working well for the vast majority of Americans.

What Congress should have done was to tackle the problems that Americans who need help were requesting. We could have addressed and accomplished reform in stand-alone bills at a much

lower cost. We've seen that the new health care law is not what the American people wanted, and I am encouraged that this law will now be heard before the highest court in the land, and I am hopeful for their expeditious and judicial removal of the Affordable Care Act.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 10, 2011.
Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 10, 2011 at 5:52 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 674.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 14, 2011.
Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 14, 2011 at 10:19 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 398.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H7407

That the Senate passed S. 363.
With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE LEE TERRY, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable LEE TERRY, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
House of Representatives, November 7, 2011.
Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena duces tecum for the production of documents, issued by the District Court of Sarpy County, Nebraska.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

LEE TERRY,
Member of Congress.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m.

□ 1632

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FOXX) at 4 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

SAM D. HAMILTON NOXUBEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 588) to redesignate the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge as the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 588

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION OF THE NOXUBEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge, located in the State of Mississippi, is redesignated as the “Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge”.

(b) BOUNDARY REVISION.—Nothing in this Act prevents the Secretary of the Interior from making adjustments to the boundaries of the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge (referred to in this section as the “Refuge”), as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, to carry out the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System in accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) and any other applicable authority.

(c) ADDITION OF LAND.—Nothing in this Act prevents the Secretary of the Interior from adding to the Refuge new land or parcels of the National Wildlife Refuge System, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, to carry out the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System in accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.) and any other applicable authority.

(d) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any statute, rule, regulation, executive order, publication, map, paper, or other document of the United States to the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge is deemed to refer to the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Under H.R. 588, the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi will be renamed after the former Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sam Hamilton, who recently died at the young age of 54. It's my understanding, Madam Speaker, that his first outdoors job was at the Noxubee Refuge, where he learned to band wood ducks and manage wildlife habitat.

I want to compliment my friend and colleague from Mississippi, Congressman GREGG HARPER, for introducing this no-cost legislation, which I think is a fitting tribute to Sam Hamilton and all that he stood for.

With that, I urge adoption of the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. BORDALLO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BORDALLO. I rise in support of H.R. 588, which would redesignate the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge as the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge.

Madam Speaker, it is abundantly clear that everyone who worked with Director Hamilton during his three-plus decades of public service had the utmost respect and admiration for him. His lifelong commitment to conservation and restoration of some of the Nation's most important species and ecosystems started at Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge, and so it is fitting that this place is memorialized in his honor.

I commend my colleague, Congressman HARPER from Mississippi, for introducing this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 3 minutes to the author of this legislation, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER).

Mr. HARPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 588, legislation that I introduced to redesignate the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge as the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge. This legislation is a companion bill to S. 266, introduced by Mississippi Senator THAD COCHRAN, which passed the Senate on February 17, 2011. I want to thank Senator COCHRAN for his leadership on this and many other conservation matters.

H.R. 588 honors Mr. Sam D. Hamilton, a lifetime conservationist and a great man who spent 30 years at the Fish and Wildlife Service, ultimately rising to Director in 2009.

Established in 1940, the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge consists of 48,000 acres in east-central Mississippi. Approximately 170,000 people visit the refuge annually and enjoy hunting, fishing, hiking, and other outdoor and recreational activities.

Mr. Hamilton had a long and personal history with the refuge. A native of Starkville, Mississippi, he recalled during his confirmation testimony that he caught his first fish at the refuge at the age of 5 and began his conservation career there as an employee at age 15. Sam called the refuge system the “finest collection of public lands and waters dedicated to fish and wildlife conservation in the world.”

Upon graduating from Mississippi State University, Sam started a career that spanned 30 years at the Fish and Wildlife Service. On September 1, 2009, Sam Hamilton was sworn in as the 15th Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Regrettably, Sam passed away on February 20, 2010. Honoring Sam by renaming the refuge would be a tribute to his remarkable career and his commitment to conservation. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation recently provided a grant to the Friends of Noxubee Refuge that will allow the name change to occur without the Federal Government's incurring these costs.