

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

OUR NATION IS ANXIOUSLY
AWAITING DECISION ON
OBAMACARE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Americans will find out what we've been anxiously awaiting for the past 2 years: whether or not the government health care takeover bill is constitutional. Tomorrow, at 10 a.m., people across the Nation will be closely watching and listening as the Supreme Court delivers its opinion.

In efforts to rally her party for ObamaCare, former House Speaker NANCY PELOSI outraged Americans at a press conference by stating, "We have to pass the bill so we can find out what's in it." The American people now know this bill, and they overwhelmingly disapprove of this bill, which the National Federation of Independent Business reveals will destroy 1.6 million jobs.

It is my hope that the Supreme Court will side with the best interests of the American people and overturn the job-destroying, out-of-control spending, and overreaching government health care takeover bill, which will hurt senior citizens with waiting lists, rationing, and denial of service.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Congratulations, Tom Rice of Myrtle Beach.

OPPOSING CONTEMPT CITATION
AGAINST THE HONORABLE ERIC
H. HOLDER, JR., ATTORNEY GEN-
ERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

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

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, tomorrow we risk bringing dishonor to this House.

For Members who revere Congress as the legislative branch of government, the majority's irresponsible and unprecedented contempt vote is just another sad chapter in our recent institu-

tional decline. I implore my colleagues to give careful consideration as to whether we truly want the 112th Congress to become the first in history to hold a sitting Cabinet member in contempt of Congress.

Do we really want our legacy to be establishing one of the most partisan House of Representatives of all time, so clouded in judgment, so besotted with rancor and partisanship, that we are incapable of addressing vital separation of powers conflicts in a serious and fair fashion?

Further negotiations with the Department of Justice and the Attorney General are clearly available if we want a solution. I urge my colleagues to join me in restoring honor and dignity to this House by opposing the nuclear option: a contempt citation.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FOR
JOBS ACT OF 2012

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

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. An important part of the continued viability of our Nation's small businesses is their access to capital. To foster this access, we need to provide community financial institutions with responsible regulatory relief so they can increase lending to small businesses.

That is why, today, I have introduced the Small Business Lending for Jobs Act of 2012. This bipartisan legislation will allow community banks to spread losses in commercial real estate over a 7-year period. This will allow banks to retain more capital and use these funds to make new loans to small businesses in their communities.

The bill also establishes a dual mission for Federal banking regulators and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, mandating these entities promote credit availability so long as that credit is provided in a safe and sound manner. This will bring a greater balance to banking regulations. A dual mission will lead to regulators factoring in the impact on banks, communities, and customers in making their decision.

I urge my colleagues to support the bipartisan Small Business Lending for Jobs Act of 2012.

AMERICA'S CUP

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work being done in my home State of Rhode Island as we host the final leg of the inaugural America's Cup World Series, an incredible boost to our tourism economy and a great moment for our State.

Teams of competitors and spectators from around the world have come to Newport for the America's Cup World Series, which according to some esti-

mates is expected to bring in \$70 million for our State's economy.

Although Newport hosted the America's Cup from 1930 to 1983, this marks the first time in history that America's Cup races are actually being held inside Narragansett Bay.

The opportunity to host a leg of this year's America's Cup not only provides a source of real economic benefit for our State, but also an intangible level of pride for all Rhode Islanders.

Thank you to the organizers for their hard work. I wish the competitors good luck, and to all those likely to benefit from the enormous economic impact of these events, much success.

BAXTER BOMB SQUAD
RECOGNITION

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of the Mountain Home High School FIRST Robotics team, first known as the "Baxter Bomb Squad," who recently won the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology championship. The team was made up of 22 students and 14 adults, including several pairs of father-and-son teams.

Together they spent hundreds of hours building a robot, which competed in the Rebound Rumble, a basketball-inspired game. The team competed in front of an audience of 30,000 people and against more than 400 other teams.

The Baxter Bomb Squad has been competing for 17 years, and for the very first time this year, they won the championship. They were sponsored by local businesses, including Baxter Healthcare and Mountain Home High School.

The For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology championship has helped influence thousands of students throughout the country to pursue higher education in engineering and related scientific fields. Students who participated in this competition are 50 percent more likely to attend college and twice as likely to major in science and engineering.

Congratulations to the Baxter Bomb Squad. Best of luck for years to come.

ORAL CHEMOTHERAPY

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, every day more and more cancer patients across the country are denied coverage for smart drugs because insurance companies refuse to cover them.

A resident in my district called my office last month to say that her insurance company refused to cover an oral chemotherapy drug she was prescribed to fight her cancer because her policy only covered generic drugs.

Madam Speaker, the insurance paradigm has not kept pace with the

science, and this is unacceptable. That is why I have introduced H.R. 2746, the Cancer Drug Coverage Parity Act, to mandate parity in coverage for all forms of chemotherapy, whether they're administered orally or through the vein.

I urge colleagues to support this legislation because cancer treatment should be determined by a physician, not by arbitrary and outdated insurance policies.

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REAL HEALTH CARE REFORM

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

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, more than 2 years ago, the President signed into law one of the most egregious attacks upon our freedom that this Nation has ever seen. Two years later, almost 60 percent of the American people still want to see ObamaCare repealed before the price of their health care goes up even more than it already has. Believe me, if we let this law take effect as planned, costs will skyrocket, and millions of Americans will lose their insurance altogether.

On top of restrictive mandates, higher taxes, Medicare cuts, and more government overreach, ObamaCare is flat out unconstitutional. We simply cannot force the American people to buy health insurance if they don't want it. I'm hopeful that tomorrow the Supreme Court will do its job and apply the Constitution as our Founding Fathers intended.

I look forward to repealing ObamaCare and getting started on real health care reform, as soon as the court reaches a decision.

POLITICAL VENDETTA

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, with so few days left in this legislative session, this is a time when we could be talking about how to help create jobs, improve education, and lower the deficit. That is surely what the American people really care about.

Instead, the greatest deliberative body in the world is quarreling about bringing a contempt charge to the floor of Congress against the Attorney General. It has never happened before. And let's be clear: it's not about finding the truth or creating reforms or finding out how gun walking started. We know how that started—it started under the Bush administration.

What this is about is just the Republican leadership pursuing single-mindedly a political vendetta, a political obsession. Like Ahab going after the great white whale, they are hoping to spill political blood.

This is the type of gamesmanship and partisanship that understandably makes the American people lose faith in their Congress and in their leaders.

Tomorrow, if it comes to the floor, vote "no" and let's get back to work on the real problems.

A FAST AND FURIOUS ATTACK

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, tomorrow the House is intending to vote on the contempt of our outstanding Attorney General, Eric Holder. It's because the Republicans have been obsessed with Fast and Furious.

Fast and Furious was a plan that went awry. It was started by the Bush administration, and it went awry. It was fatally flawed, and it resulted in the tragic death of a border agent. But nothing in this resolution will get to the bottom of it, and nothing will change it.

The fact is Fast and Furious is misnamed. Fast and furious is what the Republicans—starting with Senator MITCH MCCONNELL—have been doing since President Obama was elected. In a fast and furious way they've tried to do everything they can to taint the President of the United States and to taint anybody associated with him. That's what they are doing with Eric Holder. They want to blemish him and blemish the President.

Their fast and furious attack on the health care bill, which will save lives in America, and on this administration, is shameless. We should be creating jobs, helping the middle class, and putting America on the road to recovery. Instead, what we've been doing is a fast and furious attack on this administration.

A POLITICAL WITCH HUNT

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, while we have decried bullying in our schools, unfortunately it's going on right here in this House.

Tomorrow, the Issa resolution holding our Attorney General in contempt is to come to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to put an end to this totally politically inspired attack on Attorney General Holder and President Obama's administration.

Thousands of documents have been produced, many interviews have been held, and Mr. Holder has testified before Congress nine times on the operation Fast and Furious, which was started in Arizona no less, and under President Bush's administration. Democrats were not allowed one witness or a hearing that would have made this a fair, balanced, and likely closed investigation.

At the end of this extreme, unprecedented, partisan attack on the current

administration, which is what it's all about and what can only be called a political witch hunt, what you will find in Attorney General Eric Holder is an intelligent, competent, patriotic, dedicated, and humble public servant who is upholding the integrity of his office and serving this country with honor.

Madam Speaker, I urge the House not to sully the history and decorum of this body with this first-ever vote to hold a sitting Attorney General in contempt.

SHAMEFUL

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

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, tomorrow this House is about to do something unprecedented and unwarranted. Motivated solely by politics, the leadership of this House is planning to smear a dedicated public servant.

For the first time in our history, they are planning to hold the Attorney General of the United States in contempt of Congress. This is shameful. Not even during the nakedly partisan speakership of Newt Gingrich has this House even considered such a resolution. But even more shameful is that they are ignoring the real issue, the easily available assault weapons and the gun related violence that continues unabated in this country.

Madam Speaker, they need to put aside politics and start caring about the safety of all of our citizens.

INVEST IN JOBS AND OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I live in the Village of Cos Cob, Connecticut, where years ago a major bridge spanning the Mianus Harbor on Route 95 fell into the Mianus Harbor, killing a number of people, devastating the quality of life in the area, and hurting businesses up and down the coastline.

It fell into Mianus Harbor because we failed to invest in our transportation infrastructure. We failed to do something that we all understand is critical to our economy and just plain good sense.

On June 30, thousands of projects—like keeping the Mianus Harbor Bridge intact—will come to a halt because this House will not approve a reauthorization of the transportation bill. That's bad economics. It's bad for jobs, and it's bad for safety.

What do we do? Seventy-four Senators, lots of Republicans, and lots of Democrats, passed a 2-year bill that would keep the funding going and preserve or save or create 2 million jobs. But not in this House. No. In this House we've got to get the President to approve Keystone. We should do that, but let's do it separately and invest in jobs and our infrastructure.