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No. 101

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
July 9, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ANDY HARRIS 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: Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members of this assembly return from days away celebrating our Nation's birth, grant them safe and restful journey. May they return ready to assume a difficult work which must be done.

We pray for the needs of the Nation and world and all of creation. Bless those who seek to honor You and serve each other and all Americans in this House through their public service. May the words and deeds of this place reflect an earnest desire for justice, and may men and women in government build on the tradition of equity and truth that represents the noblest heritage of our people.

May Your blessing, O God, be with us this day and every day to come, and may all we do be done 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 his approval thereof.

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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. MCCOLLUM 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.

### 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, June 29, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*The Speaker, 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 June 29, 2012 at 5:01 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 3238.  
That the Senate passed S. 2165.  
That the Senate passed S. 2239.  
That the Senate passed S. 3363.

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, June 29, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
*The Speaker, 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 June 29, 2012 at 4:39 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6064.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

### THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS ON THE WRONG SIDE OF JUSTICE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, thousands of dead people and citizens of other countries are reportedly registered to vote in the battleground State of Florida.

Texas, however, has passed a law that would require citizens to display a photo ID when they vote. But the Justice Department isn't interested in fixing voter integrity, even though the Supreme Court has said voter ID laws are constitutional.

The DOJ, ignoring the Supreme Court decision it doesn't like, sued Texas anyway, claiming the law discriminates. The DOJ, with its battery of high-dollar lawyers, apparently has yet to find any evidence to back their claim, so it brought in a hired gun to try to find some support for its allegation—a biased liberal data group called Catalist, a self-defined agent for progressive organizations. So much for the DOJ being objective.

Instead of attacking Texas for constitutionally enforcing the law, the DOJ should focus its resources on protecting the sanctity of the ballot box.

□ 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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It seems the people who would be disenfranchised by voter ID laws would be unlawful voters or dead people.

The DOJ is on the wrong side of justice again.

And that's just the way it is.

#### STOP THE ENDLESS POLITICAL GAMES

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

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, this "do nothing" Republican Tea Party Congress is killing jobs with its endless political games. This week's gimmick vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act is a meaningless vote to deny millions of Americans health care.

Meanwhile, the House's failure to pass an extension of the wind energy tax credit to producers of all American energy is killing jobs. Thirty-seven thousand American jobs in the wind energy sector are at risk.

Minnesota is a leader in wind energy production, but because of its refusal to act, this Congress is causing businesses to lay people off, killing jobs, and harming our clean energy future. The wind energy tax credit supports clean energy developers, manufacturers, and construction companies in America and in Minnesota.

This Republican Tea Party Congress needs to stop the gimmicks, stop killing jobs, and, instead, immediately pass the wind energy tax credit to save jobs and to create more American jobs.

#### THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT CONTINUES TO HURT PATIENTS AND DOCTORS

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today The Dallas Morning News and the Fort Worth Star-Telegram carried stories that only 31 percent of Texas doctors are accepting new patients who rely on Medicaid. In 2010, the last time the survey was taken, it was 42 percent. In the year 2000, it was 67 percent.

The Texas Medical Association conducted the survey and attributes the dropping numbers to a low reimbursement rate for physicians and increasing red tape. Doctors appear to be losing patience with government-funded health plans and government-run health care in general.

You know, shortly after the Supreme Court decision, all of the cable talk shows talked about it's free riders that are driving up the cost of health care in this country. No, it's not. The biggest freeloader is the Federal Government.

The Federal Government, with its Medicare and Medicaid programs being structured the way they are, is actually causing the cost of health care to skyrocket in this country, and that's

something that needs to stop. They're freeloading on an underfunded program, and it's costing us money. And more importantly, it's inexcusably hurting patients.

The Affordable Care Act is a bad law. We all knew it was bad law when it passed. It was written by lobbyists in secret down at the White House. It was a rough draft passed by the Senate that got forced to the House.

This House is going to hold a repeal vote this week. I suspect it will pass. I urge the Senate to take up and pass this repeal vote so we can get on to the important business of reforming the system in this country.

#### SUGAR, RICE, AND SOYBEAN INDUSTRY SUPPORT

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

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, as the House Agriculture Committee considers farm bill legislation, I rise in strong support of responsible policies for all of our agriculture producers, especially the sugar, rice, and soybean industries.

Our no-cost sugar program has kept sugar supplies stable in this country, while allowing for industry expansion under the 2008 farm bill.

Last week, the St. Mary Parish Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution highlighting the critical importance of the sugar industry to south Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I will enter it into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD later.

The sugar industry contributes \$3.5 billion annually to Louisiana's economy, while supplying more than 16,000 jobs.

I'm pleased to see the chairman's initial draft language also includes multiple risk management options benefiting south Louisiana rice and soybean farmers. The chairman recognizes that a one-size-fits-all policy for our Nation's diverse agricultural economy is not feasible. I applaud their effort to work with all commodity groups to come up with an excellent final product in this farm bill.

As the farm bill moves forward in the House, I urge my colleagues to support policies that will work for all agriculture producers—not just some, but all—including Louisiana farmers.

□ 1410

#### VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2012

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

Mr. GUINTA. I rise today to add my voice to those calling for the passage of H.R. 4114, which would give a cost-of-living adjustment to our disabled military veterans.

My State, New Hampshire, has one of the largest per capita veteran popu-

lations of any State in our Nation. Nearly 128,000 former servicemen and women call the Granite State home. As its name indicates, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act would provide a much-needed benefit increase, starting this December 1, for qualifying disabled veterans. It provides an increase similar to what Social Security recipients receive.

Our disabled veterans made a special sacrifice during their time in uniform, and they now live with the result of that sacrifice each and every day. Increasing their monthly benefit checks is a small price for a grateful Nation to pay. Our military Armed Forces answered the call when our country needed them most, and I believe that we must now be there for them.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in passing this important cost-of-living increase for the disabled men and women who gave so much to our country.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HARRIS) at 4 p.m.

#### RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
July 6, 2012.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: I herewith tender to you my resignation from the office of United States Representative for Michigan's 11th Congressional District effective midnight tonight, Friday, July 6, 2012.

Sincerely,

THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
July 6, 2012.

Governor RICK SNYDER,  
Lansing, MI.

DEAR GOVERNOR SNYDER: I herewith tender to you my resignation from the office of United States Representative for Michigan's 11th Congressional District effective midnight tonight, Friday, July 6, 2012.

Sincerely,

THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of