

NOT VOTING—21

Ackerman	Granger	Pearce
Akin	Jackson (IL)	Ross (AR)
Bass (CA)	Jenkins	Ruppersberger
Berman	Landry	Ryan (WI)
Filner	Mack	Sessions
Gallagher	Miller, Gary	Shimkus
Garrett	Murphy (CT)	Speier

□ 1208

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 603, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 603, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I mistakenly voted "aye" on rollcall No. 603. My intention was to vote "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, during the course of the week, I was absent for legislative business; had I been present, I would have cast the following votes:

Rollcall 585—H.R. 5044—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—"yes."

Rollcall 586—H.R. 5912—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—"yes."

Rollcall 587—H. Res. 788—On Ordering the Previous Question—"yes."

Rollcall 588—H. Res. 788—On Agreeing to the Resolution—"yes."

Rollcall 591—H.R. 5987—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—"no."

Rollcall 592—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 593—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 594—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"yes."

Rollcall 595—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 596—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 597—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"yes."

Rollcall 598—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 599—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 600—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"yes."

Rollcall 601—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"yes."

Rollcall 602—H.R. 3409—On Motion to Re-commit with instructions—"no."

Rollcall 603—H.R. 3409—On Passage—"yes."

ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to

meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 25, 2012.

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

There was no objection.

VOICE OF TEXAS: PAM FROM
LIBERTY, TEXAS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have heard from many Texas business owners who built their own business without government help. Here's what Pam from Liberty, Texas, has to say:

We are college educated, taxpaying citizens who have a lifetime of hard work under our belts. We have stayed up nights trying to figure out how we were going to pay our taxes, insurance, employees, and bank notes. We started from scratch, owning convenience stores, car washes, mini storage businesses, a clothing business, and also operated/owned two small-town movie theaters that were built by my husband's grandparents and parents. The latest is a real estate business.

There's not much that anyone can tell us about the sacrifices that have to be made when you start up your own business. We have done it all, including working full-time jobs for someone else to make ends meet. No government agency has ever helped us with one thing, but the government certainly has made our work harder and more expensive to run/operate our businesses.

Mr. Speaker, people—not the government—make America's businesses successful.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRESS SHOULD STAY AND
WORK

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents wrote very emphatically: How could Congress possibly leave when they know that we the people face the deep, dark abyss of uncertainty—uncertainty about our unemployment, uncertainty about the jobs that we need, the uncertainty that comes when your mortgage is under water, the uncertainty that comes when you know that you have to educate your children, and yet Congress leaves without addressing the basic needs of the people that we're sworn to serve.

For the last week, we've heard an awful lot about work requirements. The primary work requirement that should be asked is of this United States Congress, for it to stay and do the work of the people. There is a jobs bill that's out there. There are tax cuts that can be achieved. Let's stay and do that work.

STAND UP FOR COAL

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the men and women who have worked tirelessly to make Indiana the best place to do business in the Midwest.

Coal produces the electricity that powers everything from manufacturing mainstays to small business startups. Mr. Speaker, coal-fired electric power plants provided 83 percent of Indiana's net electricity generation in 2011.

Rising energy prices are squeezing small businesses, entrepreneurs, and families. Unfortunately, President Obama's EPA has waged a war on coal. Unelected bureaucrats have proposed a series of sweeping regulations that would destroy jobs and decrease domestic energy production. As a result of Washington's overregulation, the Energy Information Administration expects the pace of coal-fired power plant shutdowns to increase fourfold in the next 5 years.

Today we have an opportunity to stand up for the American coal industry and the families and businesses that rely on the electricity it provides. We can ensure that regulations are sensible and not overbearing. We can make sure that coal keeps lighting homes, stores and factories in Indiana.

CONGRATULATING HOLLIS F.
PRICE MIDDLE COLLEGE

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this moment to congratulate a high school in my district, the Hollis F. Price Middle College, for receiving the U.S. News & World Report Bronze recognition as one of 2012's Best High Schools in the country.

U.S. News & World Report ranked nearly 22,000 public high schools across the country, and I'm proud that one of Memphis City Schools was recognized. This school was named after the fourth president of LeMoyne-Owen College, an Historically Black College and University in Memphis. Hollis-Price is a collaborative effort between Memphis City Schools and LeMoyne-Owen to improve graduation rates and provide accessibility for students to attend college.

I want to commend Principal Daphne Beasley, all the faculty, and the staff for their hard work and dedication. And surely the students I want to congratulate, too, and their parents on their great achievement. I was proud to speak at their graduation a few years ago. It's a great school. Continue to make Memphis proud.

PUTTING PEOPLE BEFORE
POLITICS

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, from day one my focus in Congress has been on

jobs and the economy. I believe that the best thing Congress can do is to find common ground to move our country forward. This week, I'm happy to say, we did just that.

On Wednesday evening, the House of Representatives passed a bipartisan jobs bill—which I am pleased to say I championed—which would encourage global investment here in our country. This means jobs in our local communities. Companies in the 10th District like Astellas and Takeda and Siemens are able to invest here in America and put people to work.

This bill passed with broad bipartisan support. And I certainly want to thank Representatives ROSKAM, PETERS, and BARROW for reaching across the aisle and coming together and helping to pass a commonsense bill that helps businesses to grow right here at home. When we put people before politics and progress before partisanship, we can get things done for the American people.

□ 1220

RECOGNIZING THE BRAVE DISSIDENTS IN CUBA

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

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, last week I took to this floor to discuss the brave dissidents inside Cuba that went on a hunger strike to protest the jailing of one of their own. The end of that hunger strike came this week when the Castro dictatorship announced the pending release of that dissident. This was a victory for the heroes of the opposition movement inside Cuba, but there is still much to be done.

The international community must continue to denounce the human rights abuses occurring inside Cuba, the lack of civil liberties and democratic rights, and continue to support the heroic opposition struggling for a free and democratic Cuba inside the island.

WE WILL NOT SUPPORT RADICALISM

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, recently we passed a continuing resolution to take care of the funding of the government until next March. And one of the things that concerned a lot of us was: Is any of that money in that continuing resolution going to go to help the Government of Egypt or Libya or any of the other countries where we see all that civil unrest and all the horrible acts of murder taking place?

And I never did get an answer, so I would just like to say to my colleagues who are going to be here—I'm retiring at the end of this year—we should not give one dime, not one penny, to any

country that tries to undermine the United States' interests around the world, and we should not give one penny to anybody that constantly tries to spread radical fundamentalist Muslim beliefs in this world.

Shari'a law is something we can't live with, and we need to let them know very clearly that if they want to work with the United States, fine, but they're not getting any money from us if this continues.

This world is in a terrible state because of these radicals, and we must not let them win this battle.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. REED). The Chair would remind Members to refrain from trafficking the well while a Member is under recognition.

AMERICA SHOULD STOP TRYING TO RUN THE WORLD

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

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Americans do not want, forever, permanent wars that last three or four times longer than World War II. And they especially do not want to spend hundreds of billions on people who hate or don't at least appreciate what we've done for them.

Probably half the spending we have done over the years in Iraq and Afghanistan has been pure foreign aid. And we have poured many, many billions into Egypt, Pakistan, and other countries throughout the Middle East.

Our own Nation is \$16 trillion in debt. We are borrowing all this money to send to countries that are exploding with anti-American rage.

Fifty-one American soldiers have been murdered over the past several months by Afghan police and soldiers who they were training. Now we have had our Ambassador and three other Americans killed in Libya.

We should have gotten out of Afghanistan years ago. We need to get out now and not take too long to do it.

We need to stop trying to run the whole world, creating so much resentment, and start putting our own country first once again.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will recognize Members for Special Order speeches without prejudice to the resumption of legislative business.

DO-NOTHING CONGRESS

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

Mr. HOYER. And so this 112th Congress convulses to an ugly end of its time before the national elections. All of us must be sad, and the American people are angry and sad that this Congress has been so inattentive to the needs of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, today House Republicans are leaving town and will not return until after the November elections.

Two very respected political scientists—not Democrats or Republicans; one a representative of the more conservative think tank and another a more liberal think tank—have written a book about the dysfunction they have seen in this Congress. Mr. Mann and Mr. Orenstein—quoted by many reporters from many journals, from all different perspectives—they said this:

We have been studying Washington politics in Congress for more than 40 years, and never, never have we seen them as dysfunctional. In our past writings, we have criticized both parties when we believed it was warranted. Today, however, said these two respected political scientists and observers of Washington, today, however, we have no choice but to acknowledge that the core of the problem lies with the Republican Party.

They went on to say that the GOP has become an insurgent outlier in American politics. It is ideologically extreme; scornful of compromise; unmoved by conventional understanding of facts, evidence, and science; and dismissive of the legitimacy of its political opposition. That is the nub of the problem.

Our Republican colleagues are leaving without getting their work done. I said, "their work done." Without getting our work done, the work of the American people.

Comprehensive jobs bills, middle class tax cuts have not been extended, farmers are left on their own to face the worst drought in decades—the worst drought in decades—and a farm bill reported out of the Republican committee lays unconsidered by this floor. Reported out of their committee, from their majority, and they haven't brought it to the floor, while farmers remain in trouble. We've not reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act, and we have not passed the postal reform bill.

I am glad to take this Special Order, Mr. Speaker, to say to the American people that we're prepared to stay. We're prepared to stay and work on these bills. And I'm going to talk about some of these bills, but my colleagues are here as well.

I first want to yield to the former president of the Senate of Vermont for his observations as we leave this town, my friend, Mr. WELCH from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. I thank the gentleman.

You know, on the farm bill, we've got the worst drought we've had in 50 years. We've got people who need nutrition programs. We've got farmers who need certainty about what the price