

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1964

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name from H.R. 1964, the Conservation Easement Incentive Act of 2011.

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

There was no objection.

NATIONAL THERAPEUTIC RECREATION WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, recreational therapy embraces a definition of health which includes not only the absence of illness, but extends to enhancement of physical, cognitive, emotional, social, and leisure development. This caring profession touches the lives of individuals all across the Nation.

I have personally witnessed how recreational therapy provides independence and dignity in the lives of those facing life-changing disease and disability.

These services are provided by professionals nationally certified by the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification as Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists. Every day, countless individuals face rebuilding lives. These individuals benefit from the compassionate and cost-effective care of a Certified Therapeutic Recreational Specialist.

Recreational therapy ultimately aims to improve an individual's functioning and keep them as active, healthy, and independent as possible. In a time when we need access to cost-effective health care, I urge all my colleagues to support the recognition of recreational therapy services provided by a CTRS specifically in satisfying the inpatient rehab intensity of service requirement.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the caring professionals of the therapeutic recreational profession for the services they provide every day.

LOSS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, it's day 7 since the loss of religious freedom for Americans guaranteed under the First Amendment. We know that last Friday, when the final rule was issued by the Department of Health, it was identical to the rule issued last September, with no further accommodations for individuals of faith.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, on day 6 of the loss of religious freedom for Ameri-

cans guaranteed under the First Amendment, outside the White House a Catholic priest and Presbyterian minister were arrested for protesting that loss of religious freedom when they knelt to pray for the restoration of religious freedom. Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is now illegal in the United States to kneel and pray in front of the White House for the restoration of religious freedom. These Americans had to pay a \$100 fine for exercising their religious freedom in front of the White House.

Mr. Speaker, you know that if they were Occupy protesters, I guess they would just put a tent over them and they would be immune from anything happening to them. But they weren't Occupy protesters; they were there to kneel and pray for the restoration of religious freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we don't go past day 7 of that loss of freedom.

STANDING WITH WOMEN OF OHIO

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my sisters in the State of Ohio—women elected officials, small business owners, women activists across our State—to speak out against attacks on the ability of women to get full health coverage in this country.

Imagine, we can land an astronaut on the Moon, we can target and eliminate Osama bin Laden, but we can't seem to figure out as a society how to make sure that women have full health choices in the insurance programs of our country.

It seems that some people just want to keep women in the corner and not see the struggles that they have had in preventive health care, in full choice for the medications that they take in order that they be able to live full and productive lives.

You know, our grandmother had 16 children. Several of them died. She lived to the age of 93. In those days, there were almost no medications, and more women died in childbirth than soldiers were lost in World War I.

I think the world has moved beyond closed thinking on women's health. I stand with my sisters in Ohio.

SNEAKY HIDDEN TAXES ON FLYING PUBLIC

(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, for years the Federal Government keeps sneaking taxes into airline tickets. The airlines cannot put on the ticket all those hidden taxes because the law won't let them do so. For example, when you buy a product, normally you know how much the product is and then you know how much the taxes are, but not so with airlines.

Here's a typical ticket, Mr. Speaker. It starts out with \$200 that's going to

the airline, but the Federal Government sneaks in at least 11 taxes, raising the price to \$374.95. Almost another half of the ticket is Federal taxes. That doesn't even count four more taxes they add on to the airlines.

The airline, when they make the ticket, all you see is the \$374.95 because the law won't let the airlines tell the truth about the taxation of our government. When more taxes are added, the ticket price continues to go up. Congressman GRAVES from Georgia has introduced legislation to stop this nonsense.

Let's have transparency. Let's see how much those taxes are on an airline ticket. It's time we stop the hide-and-seek with taxpayer taxes.

And that's just the way it is.

THE ACTUAL AIRLINE TICKET

Original Price of Ticket is \$200.00
Plus Government Taxes:
Passenger Flight-Segment Tax = \$3.80
International Departure Tax (IDT) = \$16.70
International Arrival Tax (IAT) = \$16.70
Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) (maximum) = \$4.50
September 11th Fee = \$2.50
APHIS Passenger Fee = \$5.00
APHIS Aircraft Fee = \$70.75
Customs and Border Protection = \$5.50
Immigration and Customs Enforcement User Fee = \$7.00
Passenger Ticket (Excise) Tax = 7.5% (\$15.00)
Frequent-Flyer Tax (on sale of right to award miles) = 7.5% (\$15.00)
Cargo Waybill Tax = 6.25% (\$12.50)
Total: \$174.95
Total Price of Ticket Is \$374.95

STANDING WITH IBEW AND IN SUPPORT OF PAYROLL TAX LEGISLATION

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to stand with IBEW in my district, the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, when they have challenged a company that is in fact doing poor work in our city, so much so that the city electrical inspector had to shut them down.

When are we going to be for our workers and to help them?

I rise today to indicate my support for the payroll tax legislation that just passed. It was, in essence, after long months of negotiation and pleading for the 160 million people to get payroll tax relief and to get those who are unemployed seeking work to get their due in unemployment insurance. It does have the opportunity for 99 weeks for those in districts that are suffering from unemployment.

It doesn't take any money from Medicare, doesn't raise the benefits. And certainly, it doesn't require those onerous burdens of unemployment—GED and drug testing—except in certain circumstances.

But why in the heck did we have to burden our Federal employees by taking the skin off their back to pay for this bill?

Let's respect and know that our Federal employees serve us. Let's get a better policy to be able to help Americans provide for the unemployment, and yet not put the pain and burden on Federal employees.

I oppose that and will continue to oppose that. But I'm glad that there are those who will get payroll tax relief and unemployment relief.

CONGRATULATING DANIEL QUESADA

(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, I stand before you to congratulate an outstanding young leader in my community, Daniel Quesada.

In December 2001, when Daniel was only 13 months old, he was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis, an inherited chronic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system of about 30,000 children and adults in the United States. Today, Daniel is a fifth grade student at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic School and is an accomplished runner who continuously finishes in the top at district races. Daniel continues to amaze doctors every day with how well he runs and his ability to exercise with ease.

Starting March 24, at Amelia Earhart Park in Hialeah, Daniel will participate in a series of 5K races across south Florida, raising awareness for his fight against cystic fibrosis. I'm sure the south Florida community will go out and participate in this event and show support for Daniel in his battle against this disease.

Anyone interested in getting information can log on to www.runningwithdanny.com.

□ 1200

THINGS MUST LOOK RIGHT TO BE RIGHT

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

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of the rights of women. I do this, Mr. Speaker, because we live in a world where it's not enough for things to be right. They must also look right. And it doesn't look right for us to conduct a hearing dealing with the rights of women and not, N-O-T, and not have a woman on the panel. We would not dare conduct such a hearing discussing the rights of men and not, N-O-T, not have a man on the panel.

It is not enough for things to be right. They must also look right. Some may argue that was right. I will always argue that it was not, and that it did not look right.

We must make the adjustments so that women can make decisions about their rights.

THE IRANIAN REGIME

(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, in stopping a nuclear-armed Iran, 2012 will be as critical a year as ever, and that's a fact. But we here in this Chamber speak as one. With a bipartisan, unambiguous voice, we can drive the conversation all around the world, and that does mean something because the United States must lead the world. It is an abdication of our responsibility and leadership if we leave the Iranian threat to anyone else.

This Iranian regime is already the leading state sponsor of terrorism in the world. They bear responsibility for killing American soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. They fuel Assad's slaughter in Syria. They were behind the recently foiled assassination plot right here on American soil in Washington, D.C. Now imagine what they would do under a nuclear umbrella of their own.

This is why we, this Congress, and this administration must anticipate what comes next. We must clearly establish that containment has no place at the table. Such a policy places us at the mercy of a madman, and it would unleash unparalleled consequences the likes of which the world has never seen. This is what's at stake.

THE FAILED TRANSPORTATION BILL

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as Congress adjourns for the week for the Presidents Day Recess, I'm hopeful that Members will go back to their districts and talk to them about the failed transportation bill that has mercifully been pulled back from the floor.

My Republican colleagues decided, for the first time in history, to put forth a partisan transportation bill, never had a hearing, that would have gutted transit. It would have reversed 20 years of transportation reform. It would have even eliminated the wildly popular Safe Routes to School program.

I would hope that they go back and they talk to their contractors, their local government officials, parents, and the PTA to understand why those programs are important, why that bill is flawed, why America deserves a better, bipartisan, visionary transportation bill to rebuild and renew America and put our people back to work.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF SONNY WILLIAM HRABE

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, it's not difficult to believe that our Florida

colleague, CONNIE MACK, could become a grandfather. But what is shocking is that our youthful and beautiful California colleague, MARY BONO MACK, has become a grandmother.

Mr. Speaker, I'm happy to announce to the House that yesterday, to MARY's daughter, Chianna, was born Sonny William Hrabé, who, in fact, is the grandson, also, of our late colleague, Sonny Bono. And what is interesting to note is that, while this 8-pound, 4-ounce baby boy was born on February 16, February 16 was the date of his grandfather's birthday, and February 16 was the date of Sonny Bono's father. So Sonny William Hrabé's great-grandfather and grandfather share the exact same date, February 16, the birthday that he has.

So congratulations go to the parents, Chianna and Mark, and, of course, to all of our colleagues and our friends and the Bono Mack family. And we look forward to having a chance to meet Sonny William sometime soon.

"GIT 'ER DONE"

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

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, let me speak to transportation and what we're doing in Congress on the Republican side. The other side of the aisle, the Democrat majority, had responsibility over transportation, and huge majorities for 4 years and control for 2 years of the White House, the Senate, the House of Representatives.

This week the President signed it into law, and we got it done. As the Cable Guy says, we're going to "git 'er done." And we're getting her done.

But you wouldn't know that the FAA bill was signed into law by the President. He signed it in the dark. He failed to send me even a bouquet of flowers or candy on Valentine's Day when he did it. He didn't want the American people to know that we succeeded in getting legislation that is responsible for 10 percent of our economy done, and we got it done without tax increases, cutting \$3,700 subsidies for airline tickets. We're going to do the same thing with the transportation bill because it will put people to work and it will lower energy costs.

So, Mr. Speaker, there's more, as Paul Harvey said, there's the rest of the story, and that's part of the story I came to tell you and the rest of the country and the Congress.

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, a lot of things going on in the Middle East, a