

these types of disasters from occurring by addressing the most urgent elements:

One, public reporting of all fire and building audits conducted by independent safety experts;

Two, mandates that factory owners make timely repairs;

Three, an obligation for the brands to terminate a contract if a factory defies its responsibility to keep workers safe;

Four, the right for workers to refuse unsafe work without retribution—to be able to refuse work without being fired, being penalized—and union access to factories, among other labor protections, so they can see for themselves what are the working conditions on any given day.

To make this work, these commitments must be contained in an enforceable contract between the brands and worker representatives because it is the workers' lives that are on the line. The holding companies of Calvin Klein, Tommy Hilfiger, Van Heusen, and IZOD have signed on to this agreement already, and a major German retailer has signed on as well. Others are now meeting in Europe to discuss its provisions.

I applaud these efforts toward corporate responsibility. It is now time for the major U.S. corporations, like GAP, Walmart, and J.C. Penney, to join them, but we must also take note and call out any attempt to water down the key provisions of this agreement. Experts believe that this safety agreement will only cost a dime per garment over 5 years in order to make a real difference in the safety of these factories—a dime for the lives of these workers.

The major global brands now face a choice. They can attempt to wait out the storm and go back to business as usual and continue their race to the bottom, or they can chart a different course that includes healthy profits, without a human death toll, by signing on to an enforceable safety agreement.

I hope these American and international fashion brands sign on. In the meantime, the American consumer and those who follow the fashion industry are watching. We want to see which fashion brands will accept blood on their labels and which will not.

COMMUNICATION FROM DIRECTOR OF CONSTITUENT SERVICES, THE HONORABLE ROBERT ADERHOLT, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Jennifer Butler-Taylor, Director of Constituent Services, the Honorable ROBERT ADERHOLT, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 29, 2013.

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, issued by the Circuit Court for Cullman County, Alabama, for documents a civil case to which I am not a party.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will determine whether compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

JENNIFER BUTLER-TAYLOR,
Director of Constituent Services,
U.S. Representative Robert Aderholt (AL-04).

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:
We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing upon this assembly and upon all to whom this authority of government is given. Help them to meet their responsibilities during these days, to attend to the immediate needs and concerns of the moment, enlightened by Your eternal Spirit.

The issues of the coming months remain complicated and divisive. Endow each Member with wisdom and equanimity, that productive solutions might be reached for the benefit of our Nation.

Please send Your Spirit of peace upon those areas of our world where violence and conflict endure and threaten to multiply. May all Your children learn to live in peace.

And may all that is done within the people's House this day 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 his approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Ms. FOXX 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.

SAVANNAH RIVER SITE REPROGRAMMING SUCCESSFUL

(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, on Friday, I was grateful to conduct a town hall in Aiken, South Carolina, where I listened to hundreds of constituents who are very concerned about the reprogramming request at the Savannah River site. Fortunately, over the weekend, the President's Office of Management and Budget sent the request to both Houses of Congress for approval.

This is a crucial step to end the 20 percent pay cut for 2,600 employees of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions. I appreciate the town hall participants: President Terra Carroll of the North Augusta Chamber of Commerce; Chairman Ronnie Young of the Aiken County Council; Aiken City Council members, Philip Merry and Dick Dewar; State Senator Tom Young, Jr.; President David Jameson of the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce; Vice Chancellor Joe Sobieralski of USC-Aiken; DHEC facilities liaison, Shelly Wilson; USC-Aiken student, Hannah McClure. And dedicated congressional staff Ted Felder, Sara Beaulieu, and Baker Elmore were instrumental for success.

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

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, for nearly 30 years, government employees have had the option to choose paid time off or comp time in lieu of overtime pay. Private sector employees, however, haven't had that choice because Washington and an old 1938 labor law won't let them.

That isn't fair. When life happens in the form of school plays, Little League games, or family members becoming sick, time and flexibility are essential to working parents and grandparents. Money doesn't buy time. It would certainly help if every worker had the choice to receive comp time when they put in extra hours.

Government shouldn't be standing in the way. There are a lot of moms and a few grandmas in the Republican Conference, and we want a solution for American families. That solution is the Working Families Flexibility Act. Our legislation will ensure all workers, whether public or private, benefit from the flexibility of choices in overtime compensation.

THE REMARKABLE RESILIENCE OF THE CITIZENS OF WEST, TEXAS

(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, this past Friday, I visited the town of West, Texas, to see for myself how the investigation of the fertilizer plant explosion is proceeding. The town has suffered incredible losses, but I was impressed by the resilience of the people in West, and it is remarkable how the community has come together after that tragedy.

It is at the very beginning stages of collecting the facts and findings into how these events transpired. I have been working closely with the staff on the Energy and Commerce Committee who are looking into the voluminous material on the matter and will continue to oversee the Federal Government's response to this tragedy as the investigation unfolds.

I wanted to personally thank Assistant State Fire Marshal Kelly Kistner; the ATF agents who handled the Federal investigation; the FEMA coordinating officer, Kevin Hannes; and the district director for Congressman BILL FLORES, Timothy Head. I want to thank each of them for their service to our country and to the community of West. God bless our State.

IMMIGRATION BILL OPPOSED

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, National Review and The Heritage Foundation both oppose the Senate immigration bill for many good reasons.

There is no deadline for secure borders, yet millions of illegal immigrants would be given amnesty 6 months after the bill is enacted. This would only encourage more illegal immigration.

The Senate immigration bill would double the already record 1 million legal immigrants admitted every year. Most Americans oppose this and instead want to make sure that current immigrants are assimilated.

The bill puts foreign workers ahead of the interests of American workers and the economic needs of our country.

Mr. Speaker, it is inconceivable that an immigration bill with these huge flaws would be approved.

READ THE BILLS ACT

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

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Read the Bills Act to provide transparency and accountability from all of us to our constituents.

Read the Bills would provide that Members of Congress and the public

have 1 week to review any bill and proposed amendments before voting on passage. It requires legislation be passed by rollcall, and it makes legislation easier to read by requiring that we show, in context, how bills would affect existing law.

It is a basic moral question that a Member of Congress should only vote to pass legislation having read and understood it. Every law affects how the American people live: who prospers and who suffers, who receives help and who is hurt, who is regulated and who benefits. We cannot pass laws without knowing what they do.

No legislation should be passed under cover of procedure. It is our duty to be transparent to our constituents, and I hope Members on both sides of the aisle will agree that this is an important step to rebuilding the trust between the American people and Congress.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1707

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York) at 5 o'clock and 7 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 later.

VIETNAM VETERANS DONOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT ACT OF 2013

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 588) to provide for donor contribution acknowledgments to be displayed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Vietnam Veterans Donor Acknowledgment Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. DONOR CONTRIBUTION ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AT THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL VISITOR CENTER.

Section 6(b) of Public Law 96-297 (16 U.S.C. 431 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4) by striking the "and" after the semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (5) by striking the period and inserting "and"; and

(3) by inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

"(6) notwithstanding section 8905(b)(7) of title 40, United States Code—

"(A) the Secretary of the Interior shall allow the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. to acknowledge donor contributions to the visitor center by displaying, inside the visitor center, an appropriate statement or credit acknowledging the contribution;

"(B) donor contribution acknowledgments shall be displayed in a form approved by the Secretary of the Interior and for a period of time commensurate with the level of the contribution and the life of the facility;

"(C) the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund shall bear all expenses related to the display of donor acknowledgments;

"(D) prior to the display of donor acknowledgments, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. shall submit to the Secretary for approval, its plan for displaying donor acknowledgments;

"(E) such plan shall include the sample text and types of the acknowledgments or credits to be displayed and the form and location of all displays;

"(F) the Secretary shall approve the plan, if the Secretary determines that the plan—

"(i) allows only short, discrete, and unobtrusive acknowledgments or credits;

"(ii) does not permit any advertising slogans or company logos; and

"(iii) conforms to applicable National Park Service guidelines for indoor donor recognition; and

"(G) if the Secretary of the Interior determines that the proposed plan submitted under this paragraph, does not meet the requirements of this paragraph, the Secretary shall—

"(i) advise the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. not later than 30 days after receipt of the proposed plan of the reasons that such plan does not meet the requirements; and

"(ii) allow the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. to submit a revised donor recognition plan.".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, last year, Jan Scruggs, president of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, came to my office and told me about an absurd fund-raising problem he had. He told me that in order to build a much-needed education center at the Vietnam Wall, he had to raise nearly \$100 million of private money. Normally, this would not be a big problem; however, in this case,