

issues like counterterrorism, nuclear nonproliferation and the global financial crisis.

Our efforts will not stop there. Together, we will help spread the universal values of freedom, human rights, and the rule of law. We will march together to take on global challenges—from fighting poverty to tackling climate change and other environmental issues.

Members of the House and the Senate,

Our journey since the Korean war has been led by a specific mission to respond to threats and provocations from the north and to defend freedom and peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Today, our alliance is called upon to go beyond that—beyond just the defense of freedom and peace. We are called upon to step forward on a new journey—a journey toward a Korea that is at peace, that is happy, and that is made whole.

Our economic partnership must also aim higher and reach further into the future.

President Obama has outlined the Startup America Initiative. Together, with my strategy for a creative economy, we can advance toward a common goal—to help channel the innovative ideas, the passion, and the drive of our youths towards a brighter future.

Koreans and Americans are partnering in new ways, whether at world tours of Korean pop stars for Hollywood films or at reconstruction sites in the Middle East.

Together, we can envision a future that is richer, that is safer, and that is happier.

Our chorus of freedom and peace, of future and hope, has not ceased to resonate over the last 60 years and will not cease to go on.

Thank you very much.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 11 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m., Her Excellency Park Geun-hye, President of the Republic of Korea, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The Members of the President's Cabinet;

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The purpose of the joint meeting having been completed, the Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, (at 11 o'clock and 16 minutes a.m.) the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1201

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at 12 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

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, May 8, 2013.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
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 May 8, 2013 at 9:27 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1071.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT

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

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, as a mother who has worked for many years outside of the house raising our three children, I know firsthand about the challenges of trying to balance work with family life. That is why I'm a proud cosponsor of the Working Families Flexibility Act, which would give more time to workers, the freedom to decide how to use their time. For some people, this may mean taking a sick child to the doctor or attending their daughter's ballet recital or caring for an aging parent.

Currently, an outdated law prohibits private sector employers from even offering their employees the option to choose paid time off as compensation for overtime hours worked. The Work-

ing Families Flexibility Act would put an end to this arbitrary restriction.

By leveling the playing field and giving more employees the freedom to control their overtime compensation, this commonsense proposal will help strengthen families and our workforce.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, this week is the 30th annual National Travel and Tourism Week. On Monday, I met with travel and tourism leaders in my State to discuss what we can do at the Federal level of government to strengthen this key sector of our economy.

According to the U.S. Travel Association, travel and tourism generated \$2 trillion in economic output in 2012. The industry is also one of America's largest employers, supporting 14.6 million jobs. And this is especially important for my home State of Rhode Island, where the travel and tourism sector supports more than 40,000 jobs and generates \$3.5 billion in spending. But we need to do more to support the travel industry, as well as the small business community that depends on a thriving tourism economy.

I am a cosponsor of the bipartisan JOLT Act, a bill that would revise existing visa laws to support the American travel and tourism economy while maintaining essential national security protocols.

I look forward to working further with my colleagues to highlight the importance of our travel and tourism economy in a way that will put men and women back to work in Rhode Island and across our country.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

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

Mr. DENHAM. As chair of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials, tomorrow the full Transportation Committee will be taking up legislation which represents a significant opportunity to create American jobs and spur economic growth in our country.

Quite simply, the Northern Route Approval Act will end years of bureaucratic delays and finally allow construction to the Keystone XL pipeline project. The delay alone over the last 4 years has blocked 120,000 American jobs. The delays have to stop. This has bipartisan support. It is time to stop the delays. In my home State of California, we have not only seen huge skyrocketing gas prices, but we continue to see high unemployment and rolling blackouts.

I'm part of the House Energy Action Team, and it is time to make sure that we have energy independence, lower

gas prices and energy prices, and create American jobs. It's time to stop the delays of the Keystone XL pipeline.

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today we're considering the Republican's latest attack on workers' rights. Republicans are calling this bill the Working Families Flexibility Act, but a more appropriate name would be the More Work, Less Pay Act. This bill is bad for middle class families and would make life worse for workers.

It would essentially end the 40-hour workweek by permitting employers to not pay overtime to workers who exceed 40 hours per week. Instead, it would allow employers to hold earned comp time in their control. It would allow employers to refuse the right of workers to take time off to help a family member in need or attend a parent-teacher conference. That's wrong, Mr. Speaker.

Productivity of our Nation's workers is at an all-time high, yet again we see efforts to whittle down the rights of hardworking families.

Instead of focusing on attacking workers, maybe we should focus on creating good-paying jobs. That's what our constituents want. That's what Americans want.

REINING IN REGULATION TO HELP JOBS RECOVER

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

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, America's workers and families are in a jobs depression. Since 2009, 9.5 million people have dropped out of the workforce. America's workforce participation rate is the lowest since Jimmy Carter was President. Millions looking for full-time work can find only part-time jobs.

Overreaching Federal regulation is a big reason for this jobs disaster. The Obama administration's onslaught of new major regulation is unprecedented. Every day, Federal agencies erect more roadblocks to economic growth and a jobs recovery.

The House Judiciary Committee is working hard to provide relief. It passed the REINS Act last month and is at work on other groundbreaking legislation to reduce unneeded regulation. This legislation is critical to the growth and recovery America needs, and the Judiciary Committee will do all it can to achieve it.

□ 1210

CANCEL THE SEQUESTER ACT

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

Ms. WILSON of Florida. It has now been 857 days since I arrived in Congress, and the Republican leadership has still not allowed a single vote on serious legislation to address our unemployment crisis.

The nightmare of joblessness is destroying the American Dream.

When I was graduating from college, my American Dream was owning a home and starting a family, while, for the class of 2013, the American Dream means just having a job—any job—to make ends meet. By eliminating public sector jobs during a time of high unemployment, the sequester is killing the American Dream. It's up to us to cancel the sequester and ensure that America is again a land of opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, let's bring H.R. 900, the Cancel the Sequester Act, to the floor for a vote to end this shame. Our mantra should be jobs, jobs, jobs.

AMERICAN AND SOUTH KOREAN ALLIANCE

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

Mr. GARRETT. I rise to speak about the strong relationship between the United States and South Korea, one of our most important relationships, for South Korea is one of America's closest allies in Asia and, indeed, in the entire world. Since the Korean war in the 1950s, the U.S. and South Korea have stood side by side in the name of democracy and liberty and to face down the forces of tyranny and oppression and dictatorship from North Korea and the broader world.

All you need to do is to compare North and South Korea to understand how successful South Korea has been and how much of a failure the Kim regime in the North has been.

South Korea is the world's 15th-largest economy and Asia's fourth-largest. Companies like Samsung, Kia, and LG are major, globally known brands, while Seoul ranks as one of the great cities of the world. South Korea is a vibrant, open society with an equally vibrant and open political system.

Now take North Korea. North Korea is a kleptocratic, vicious dictatorship that tramples on the most basic rights of its citizens, all in the name of glorifying the Kim family and its cadre of jack-booted thugs. There is no freedom of choice, no freedom of religion, and no freedom to dissent from the line of the Kim regime. For the average North Korean, there is only poverty, despotism, and no hope as the regime squanders its resources on its bloated military and dangerous nuclear program.

THE MIRA LOMA SCIENCE BOWL WIN

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

Mr. BERA of California. Mr. Speaker, last week, a team from Mira Loma

High School in Sacramento won the National Science Bowl for the third time since 2009. Hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Science Bowl was created to encourage students to enter science and mathematics careers.

I want to congratulate these talented and hardworking students from my home district. They represent America's future. They are our country's next generation of innovators. We must continue to inspire our students to excel in fields like science and math. We need to make science cool.

To Jack Gurev, Daniel Shen, Siddharth Trehan, and Saaket Agrawal, you guys make us proud.

And, Coach James Hill, keep inspiring the next generation to go into science and math. It's cool.

OBAMA'S VISIT TO TEXAS SHOULD FOCUS ON ENERGY

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Tomorrow, the President of the United States will be traveling to the great State of Texas to talk jobs. I am proud that the President recognizes Texas as a leading job-producing State and that he understands what it is to create jobs and retain a robust economy.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday, The Wall Street Journal had an interesting article—it's on my chart up here—about the energy boom in Texas. It stated that Texas produces as much oil as the next four oil-producing States combined. The Lone Star State now pumps nearly 2 million barrels a day.

Now, the President's tour only has one stop in Texas, south of Austin, which is unfortunate. I would like to invite the President to come to my energy-rich district along the Texas gulf coast and see what job creation really looks like. If the President wants to create jobs, there is a project—the Keystone pipeline to be exact—that has been waiting 1,692 days to do just that.

I encourage and welcome President Obama to come to my district so he can talk with local business leaders who want the Keystone pipeline.

That's the way it is from where I sit. I'm RANDY WEBER.

THE CAMARILLO SPRINGS WILDFIRE AND THE HEROISM OF THE FIRST RESPONDERS

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

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Last week, Ventura County endured one of the largest wildfires in our county's history. The Camarillo Springs wildfire burned over 28,000 acres, damaging some homes and buildings and threatening many neighborhoods in Ventura County.

I rise today to thank more than 1,800 firefighters and first responders who