

imagine America as a generous, inclusive society that accepts people from all walks of life and that it preserves the ladder of opportunity.

We believe we should have early childhood education so that the young ones can get a head start on a good life.

We believe in solid, quality K-12, and that the kids should have nutrition and be safe while they're at the schoolhouse.

We believe that when they get to college, they should be able to seek their dream and be who they want to be, as Mr. CARTWRIGHT so eloquently said.

And we believe people ought to be able to be paid fairly when they're in their adult life and take care of their family and be able to go to the doctor.

And we believe that when people reach their golden years, they ought to be able to retire with dignity, so we protect Social Security.

□ 2040

Cradle to the grave, Americans dream of prosperity. It's not too much to ask for in the richest country in the history of the world, but a key link in that quality life of prosperity in this country is college affordability. And it is something that if you want it, you've got to fight for it. Nobody is going to hand it to you. And when Americans wanted to see civil rights before the law, when they wanted to see African Americans have civil rights, women have civil rights, when they wanted to see people on the job, workers have some voice on the job, they stood up and they said, "We've got to rearrange this deal." When we said that our environment was getting poisoned and dirty and they needed to demand that industry do something to make sure we had a cleaner environment, people stood up, Mr. Speaker, and they did something about it. And this is what we have to do right now.

So I just want to say to you, Mr. POCAN, and you, Mr. Speaker, this is an excellent opportunity to raise key issues about a central issue of American prosperity for working and middle class people.

I do thank the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. POCAN. Thank you very much, Representative ELLISON. Your leadership for many years in this body has been well appreciated. I want to thank you for bringing back really the central theme of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. When we had a budget, it was the back-to-work budget. It's about fighting on behalf of the middle class. We saw the Republican budget in this House balance the budget on the backs of the middle class. But our budget had the back of the middle class and those aspiring to be in the middle class. And one of those fundamental equalizers is that opportunity to get a higher education, to advance in society, to change your economic outlook.

I grew up in a lower middle class family. I not only had student loans, I also had Pell Grants. I was fortunate.

But back when I went to college, you were still able to pay back your loans often in about a 5-year period. But more and more, it's a 10-year, 20-year payment back in order to be able to afford those rising student costs, and that is taking a bite not only out of the current economy, but out of the opportunities for those people getting those degrees so they can improve their lives and their family's lives and rise either into the middle class or to better their lives overall.

So the Congressional Progressive Caucus has had this as a central focus: How can we help lift those in poverty to the middle class and help those in the middle class to have every chance at opportunity that they should have? Those student loans are a crucial part of that. If we let this bill pass, H.R. 1911, tomorrow, in this body, we will put a financial burden on the backs of those who need it the most, those who are taking out loans to afford college. And if we do nothing as a body, the interest rate will double from 3.4 percent to 6.8 percent come July 1. Congress has to act.

Now this body has been able to vote 37 times to try to repeal the Affordable Care Act and the benefits to America's families from the Affordable Care Act—37 times—yet we have not found a way yet to fix the student loan crisis, and we simply need to do that. And that's why the Progressive Caucus is fighting so hard to do that.

I would like to close with one final story. Again, One Wisconsin Now had collected some stories, and this is from a woman from Wisconsin named Diana. Let me read her story:

I graduated from a 4-year college in 2006. Today, 7 years later, my loan payments are over \$600 per month. To put that in perspective, our combined household income is roughly \$48,000 per year. That's 15 percent of our income before taxes. That's money that's not going into our retirement funds, not going towards a new home, not going towards a child's college fund, and certainly not going back into the economy in a productive way. My husband and I have been forced to make major life decisions based on my student loan debt alone. Unfortunately, there's no end in sight with regard to my student loans. My interest rates vary from 4.5 percent to 11.25 percent. Some of the payments I make cover interest alone. My principal balance hasn't changed in months on some of my private loans. This is not what I envisioned when I was applying for colleges my senior year of high school.

These are the real stories from people in Wisconsin, but they're no different from stories of people across the country.

We have heard tonight, and I want to thank Representative JEFFRIES from New York, Representative CARTWRIGHT from Pennsylvania, and Representative ELLISON from Minnesota for coming and sharing those strong words about why we need to address this issue and why it is such a crucial issue—not a Democratic issue, not a Republican issue, not an Independent issue, but an American issue, especially for those in the middle class and those aspiring to be in the middle class.

We need, Mr. Speaker, to act on this. Mr. Speaker, we need to act on this soon, before July 1. But, Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry, but H.R. 1911, the bill before this body tomorrow, will only make the situation worse. I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### WEEK IN REVIEW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It may surprise some of my colleagues, I agree with so much of what was being said with regard to the cost of education and how we need to be very sensitive to that.

I was concerned about the vote we were going to cast tomorrow that would prevent the interest rates from going up to 6.8 percent as they're going to do if this body does nothing. I was very concerned about it going up to 6.8 percent, and then I understood the proposed Republican bill that we are going to take up tomorrow will not let it go up to 6.8, but I was wondering why we didn't just leave it where it is. Let's just extend it.

The Democrats set in motion, when they were in the majority, this situation where it was going to raise. And, actually, it was going to raise last year, and we voted a year ago to just extend the current rate for a year. As I've had members of my own leadership and whip team pushing me on the issue of wanting me to vote for the bill tomorrow, I've been trying to find out more and more about why is this provision in there. Why are we doing this? And it's very clear. Interest rates for student loans are going to go up to 6.8 percent if we do nothing because that's the law that was put in place.

Well, I said, why can't we leave it where it is? And the explanation was given because the Democrats, in what they put together to pay for ObamaCare, actually were counting on, and they got CBO to count on, using the difference between the current rate and it going up to 6.8 percent as the Democrats were counting on it having done.

So, on the one hand, my friends express the same concern that I have about the interest rates jumping up that high, going dramatically to 6.8 percent, and then, on the other hand, they were not explaining that the reason that it was going to jump up so high if we do nothing is because Democrats were counting on that as a way to help pay the massive billions of dollars that are going to be required for ObamaCare even though people are going to get less insurance, less care, and have less say about their care, it's still going to cost billions and billions more.

□ 2050

And, in fact, CBO has indicated, you know, gee, they originally scored it, let's see, over \$1 trillion; and then the President called Doug Elmendorf over from CBO and explained, apparently, said something to him in the Oval Office because then when he went back, magically they were able to lower it under a trillion, as the President said it was going to cost.

And then after it passed, CBO comes back, oh, you know what? We were right the first time. It's going to be more than a trillion, and then it was going to be 1.6 trillion. Others are saying it may be 2 trillion. Who knows how much.

But it's going to cost massive amounts more. There are going to be massive taxes, according to what the Supreme Court calls it. We didn't call it taxes, but that's what the Supreme Court said that the Democrats did when they passed ObamaCare without a single Republican vote. And they were counting on the increase, tremendous increase, the billions of dollars coming from increased interest on student loans rising.

Now, if you go back just a little bit, well, why in the world is the government even involved in the student loan business anyway?

We didn't used to be, as the Federal Government, a bank that just loaned people money on a regular basis. Well, when the Democrats were in the majority, they pushed through a bill that forced all lending institutions out of the student loan business, and the government took over the student loan business.

Well, if this is going to totally cease to be a government that is of the people, by the people and for the people, and not moving toward tyrannical despotism, then we have to allow people to have private property, we have to allow the free market to reign, we have to allow individuals and banking institutions to make the loans.

But oh, no, our friends across the aisle decided we're going to shove the free market out of the student loan business, and we're going to take over student loans. And we're going to set it at a low rate, but we're going to—it's going to go up, and we'll use the billions that come from that magical increase down the road to pay for ObamaCare. And that's how part of it, supposedly, was paid for.

Well, one of the things I learned the hard way while our friends, the Democrats, were in the majority for 4 years, was that actually the first Congress they were in the majority, they passed a pay-as-you-go bill, or PAYGO they called it. I voted for it, and I got criticized by Republican leadership. Don't you know that they don't mean what they say? This doesn't mean—they're not really going to pay for anything. It's just a game.

And I said, how would I not be for paying as we go? That's what their bill said.

And then I learned the hard way on that because then I saw they really weren't serious about it because bill after bill came to the floor, and we said, but you put a rule in place it has to be paid for.

Oh, but we're waiving the pay-as-you-go requirement on this bill.

What about this other one? Well, we're waiving the pay-as-you-go.

And so I was shocked to find out, apparently, our leadership, the folks that had been here for a longer period of time had already learned, and I learned a lesson the hard way.

So the next Congress, when they came up with a pay-as-you-go bill, I said, are you kidding? You fooled me last time. I thought you were serious about it. I'm not going to vote for a bill that you have no interest in actually following through and doing what the bill says. I'm not going to vote for a bill like that. I'm not going to help participate in the charade.

But when it comes to ObamaCare, they say, oh, it's paid for. And this is one of the magical ways that billions of dollars were projected by CBO to be produced. Well, they're going to do it on the backs of students.

Well, we had control, the Republicans did, of the Congress in the previous 2 years; and a year ago we said, well, let's just keep it at the current rate and move it forward a year, and we'll do something a year from now.

So, my Republican friends, when trying to persuade me to vote for this bill tomorrow said, look, the student loan rates will stay where they are for now, but, yeah, eventually they will go up some. But the good news is they won't go all the way up to 6.8.

And I said, why do they go up at all?

They said because we promised we're going to pay as we go and we meant it. But we're not going to go all the way to 6.8. So we'll actually have a shortfall we're going to have to come up with because the Democrats were counting on these billions of dollars coming off the backs of students to pay for ObamaCare.

So, as all of this has become clearer and clearer to me tonight, well, earlier this, late this afternoon, this evening, I've been communicating back and forth with my staff. So we have a bill that my Democratic friends ought to be thrilled to death about, and we're going to file it first thing in the morning; and it ought to excite my friends across the aisle.

And I know my own leadership has been wanting me to vote for this bill. But they say the reason the rates have to go up at all is because, under the budget previously done for ObamaCare, to pay for ObamaCare, the Democrats counted on this revenue. And so since we don't want to increase the deficit spending, we're going to have to let the rates go up a little bit, but we're not going to let them go up to 6.8 as was originally put in place by our Democratic friends.

So, anyway, what my bill will do that we'll file first thing in the morn-

ing is say, you know what, we're going to keep the current rates right where they are. And I hope folks will join me in encouraging my leadership to bring this bill to the floor, my bill to the floor, instead of the one we're going to vote on tomorrow. If we have to wait 72 hours, fine. Let's do it 2 weeks from now. We've got the time.

And my bill will leave the rates right where they are for a 2-year period. And since we don't want—number 1, we don't want the rates to go up for college students. We're sorry that the Democrats ever figured that in as part of the process of paying for ObamaCare.

And since we don't want it to have to go up on the students, those who are having to borrow money to pay for college, then the way we keep from increasing the deficit spending in the bill I'll file first thing in the morning, we eliminate the ObamaCare slush fund, and the billions that are eliminated for the slush fund for ObamaCare will no longer have to come from the backs of young people who cannot afford to go to college without loans.

That's the solution, and I hope my Democratic friends will hear and get word about this great bill, because I believe what they were saying. They're serious. Even though their party passed a bill that we refer to as ObamaCare, it's certainly not affordable care, but they passed that bill, by themselves, without any Republican votes because we knew how bad it was.

We knew how much it was going to cost. We knew you wouldn't get to keep your insurance if you wanted it. We knew you weren't going to get to keep your doctor if you wanted. We saw all those terrible things that are now coming to pass.

And it will prevent the ObamaCare slush fund, the money that's set aside in the ObamaCare bill. It'll just eliminate the slush fund, and say to the Democrats, you never should have had that slush fund, and you're not going to pay for it on the backs of those who can't afford to go to college without getting loans.

Now, I did have to double-check with regard to this bill. I had to make sure that I wasn't going to be voting on something that affected loans that my wife and I are paying, our children's student loans, because before I ever ran for office as a judge, my wife and I had set aside enough money that was going to take care of our kids' college.

But by virtue of running for office and taking a huge cut in pay, we ended up having to utilize that money for our family and for our girls and for expenses. And so my wife and I are paying our kids' student loans because I didn't want them to have to suffer with a bunch of student debt because their father felt a calling to go into public service.

But it would not be appropriate for me to vote on a bill that affected the rates of loans that we're paying, and it is now quite clear that that's not the

case. The student loan bill that we're going to vote on, whether it's the one tomorrow or whether it's the one that I will file tomorrow that I would prefer that we do, either way, it will not affect one iota, not at all loans that are already in place, student loans. So I'll be able to vote.

And, anyway, I've been whipping with my own team, undecided, and then later today was leaning no. And the more I found out, the more it's convinced me, we really should not allow the Democrats pushing through ObamaCare and the massive trillions of dollars that's ultimately going to cost to have any part of it forcibly borne by students, by young people that just want to better themselves by getting a higher education and having to get a loan to do it.

□ 2100

So I have taken the things my friends said to heart and I am counting on them to admit what they said, Mr. Speaker. I'm hoping they'll agree in the morning to cosponsor my bill so that they can be consistent with the things they promised. Now it does defund the ObamaCare slush fund; but since that was originally going to be borne on the backs of college students, I'm sure they don't mind that going away.

With regard to taxes, let's face it, if the money costs the Federal Government an amount down here and they have an interest rate that's higher than the cost of the money that the Federal Government gets to loan to students, then the Federal Government is making money on that. And that's what the Democrats knew and that's why they counted on the higher interest rates to pay for ObamaCare.

Anyway, hopefully, we can work together and get that accomplished. Let's face it, that kind of expense should not have to be borne because, really, it becomes a tax. It's new revenue for the Federal Government. And then I'm hoping before the end of the 2 years, if we would do my bill, we can do what should have been done in the first place, and that is get it back to the private sector where we become referees, again, as a Federal Government to make sure that neither lender nor borrower is cheating. That's what we're supposed to be. We're supposed to be a referee. Over the years, through both Republican and Democratic majorities, the government has continued to move from the realm of being a referee to being also a player and also the coach as well as the referee. And it's hard for anybody to ever compete against a player who's coached and refereed by the opponent. The government shouldn't be in that business of being adversaries, opponents, or competitors with the private sector. It shouldn't be.

So I hope that we will get to a bill that puts all the lending back in the private sector where the Federal Government is no longer the lender. I hope we can do that with different kinds of

insurance. Get it out of the Federal Government. Because, invariably, when the government controls everything, it's just what we've seen with the IRS scandals. You're going to have some abuses with people that would control all of your health care records, people that will make the decisions on what health care you get, people that can actually come in and take your home—the only people that can come in and take your home—the only people that can come in and seize assets without proper due process of the law: the IRS.

It needs to be dismantled, and I hope we can do that. I hope we can get to a place where we're no longer the bureaucracy that becomes so autocratic that it could care less about people's personal feelings. Yes, people come here on the floor of the Congress and talk about people's personal feelings. But when you see the big, monolithic government that's just gotten so big, it doesn't care about people's feelings. It's hurting people right and left.

Sure, the President has private sector leaders stand up and talk about how great ObamaCare was going to be. And now they have been finding out it's not going to be so great. You're not keeping your insurance; you're not keeping your doctor. You're going to get less health care, you're going to get less insurance, it's going to cost a lot more.

And with regard to the IRS scandal, we had Ms. Lerner come before our committee. I was in Judiciary. We were doing our own hearings on other matters. And I heard some of her statement about how she didn't do anything wrong and she's not guilty of anything. Well, as a judge and a chief justice who is very familiar with the Fifth Amendment, I've had to advise defendants. Now you understand if you say anything at all on your own behalf, you have waived your Fifth Amendment right and you will have to answer questions, and you will not be able to claim the Fifth Amendment.

So what did Ms. Lerner do today? She came in and said she didn't do anything wrong. She followed the law in all ways. Oh, she was just a paragon of virtue. Well, then she's waived her right to claim the Fifth Amendment before Congress, and she needs to be brought back up here and have that explained properly. You waived your right when you started telling us how virtuous you were. So now you're going to answer questions, because you can't have it both ways. You can't come in here and say to this Congress, I did absolutely nothing wrong. I violated no laws. I'm in no danger of having violated any laws. And then turn right around and honestly say, I'm not going to speak because what I say is going to tend to incriminate me. Well, it can't incriminate you if you didn't do anything wrong, so go ahead and testify. You started out, so go ahead and finish up.

Sure, you can go out on the street and say, I didn't do anything wrong;

but when you come before a court or Congress and say to that Congress, I didn't do anything wrong, or to a court, I didn't do anything wrong, you just waived your right. Now you're going to tell us what it was that you didn't do wrong so we can decide that for ourselves. So I hope she'll be brought back.

We also had Mr. Douglas Shulman come in and testify. And what I was hearing as far as part of his testimony was, yeah, he knew about the illegality of what was going on, and he was trying to put a stop to it. And he knew that conservatives were being targeted. Well, let's face it, that means that this administration was using the IRS to help them win another election. Well, it worked. How far up into the administration is what we need to know. But I don't believe we're going to find out from people like Mr. Shulman, who went to the White House, he said, over a hundred times. And even though he's working for the President and even though he started out under the Bush administration—that's fine, we had people under the Bush administration that screwed up plenty of times, too—but he's working for President Obama, comes to the White House over a hundred times, knows there's wrongful conduct that's gone on at the IRS and never says a word.

What did you go over a hundred times for? Well, I remember going for an egg roll. Well, guess what? If you went for an egg roll, the President was out there. He normally is for the Easter Egg Roll. You wouldn't even say something? That man should have been fired. We shouldn't have clowns that will work at the IRS know illegal activity is going on, go talk to their boss, go to the White House over a hundred times, and not even breathe a word of it so their bosses know. I wouldn't want somebody like that working for me. If there's illegal activity going on and you come see me over a hundred times, I would hope that during one of those times you would tell me this was going on. Because if you didn't, and I found out, you would be fired as soon as I found out. Ms. Lerner would have been fired as soon as we found out. But instead, what happens? Well, they plant a question so it comes out that way. So maybe the President will learn after we plant a question.

Something is awry. Something is very, very wrong.

□ 2110

Having had thousands of criminal cases come before my court, come through my court, you smell when things don't pass the smell test, and this stinks to high heaven.

So in the morning, I hope I'll have a whole list of Democratic colleagues that are ready to sign on to my bill so that we will keep the interest rates for the student loans where they are so that we don't push paying for the ObamaCare slush fund onto the backs of students. And we then get time to

put the student loan business back in the private sector so the Federal Government can be the referee and monitor the lending institutions and the borrowers, and be the referee. That's what we're supposed to be.

As far as the IRS scandal, Mr. Speaker, I hope and pray some consciences are being bothered and hounded in the IRS and over Benghazi and over the AP scandal—the abuse of process there, the abuse of process in going after conservative reporters—that consciences will begin to be bothered and they won't be cleared until they come forward and say: I'm a whistleblower; I have got to get the truth off my chest. Let the chips fall where they may. That's what I hope and pray for.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today and for the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of illness in the family.

Mr. CLYBURN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. HINOJOSA (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for May 14 on account of attending a funeral of a young soldier from his district who was killed in Afghanistan.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 982—To prohibit the Corps of Engineers from taking certain actions to establish a restricted area prohibiting public access to waters downstream of a dam, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 23, 2013, at 9 a.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1578. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting notification of several violations of the Antideficiency Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b) and 1351; to the Committee on Appropriations.

1579. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Annual Report for FY 2012 regarding the training, and its associated ex-

penses, of U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF) with friendly foreign forces for the period ending September 30, 2012, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1580. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Keith M. Huber, United States Army, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1581. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Housing Administration (FHA): Section 232 Healthcare Facility Insurance Program-Strengthening Accountability and Regulatory Revisions Update Final Rule Amendment — Revision of Date of Applicability [Docket No.: FR-5465-F-03] (RIN: 2502-AJ05) received May 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1582. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program [Docket ID: ED-2012-OPE-0006] (RIN: 1840-AD13) received May 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1583. A letter from the Acting Chief Policy Officer, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits received May 17, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1584. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Animal Feed and Pet Food; Electron Beam and X-Ray Sources for Irradiation of Poultry Feed and Poultry Feed Ingredients [Docket No.: FDA-2012-F-0178] received May 13, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1585. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Safety Evaluation by the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation BWR Vessel and Internals Project BWRVIP-241, Probabilistic Fracture Mechanics Evaluation for the Boiling Water Reactor Nozzle-To-Vessel Shell Welds and Nozzle Blend Radii received May 13, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1586. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergency Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1587. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergency Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1588. A letter from the Chairman, Administrative Conference of the United States,

transmitting the Conference's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2012; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1589. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs & Collaborative Action, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Residential, Business, and Wind and Solar Resource Leases on Indian Land (RIN: 1076-AE73) received May 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1590. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher/Processors Using Hook-and-line Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 120918468-3111-02] (RIN: 0648-XC633) received May 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1591. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic [Docket No.: 120403251-3290-01] (RIN: 0648-BB70) received May 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1592. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations; Third Annual Space Coast Super Boat Grand Prix, Atlantic Ocean; Cocoa Beach, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2013-0071] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received May 1, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1593. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Organization and Delegation of Duties [Docket No.: NHTSA-2013-0048] (RIN: 2127-AL44) received May 2, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1594. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting Naval Petroleum Reserves Annual Report of Operations for Fiscal Year 2012; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Energy and Commerce.

1595. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification to Congress regarding the Incidental Capture of Sea Turtles in Commercial Shrimping Operations, pursuant to Public Law 101-162, section 609(b); jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Appropriations.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 232. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1911) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish interest rates for new loans made on or after July 1, 2013, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-89). Referred to the House Calendar.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following