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House of Representatives

The House met at 2.p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 3, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVE WOMACK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

As the various Members of this people's House return, we ask Your blessing upon each as they resume the difficult responsibilities that await them. Give each the wisdom and good judgment needed to give credit to the office they have been honored by their constituencies to fill.

Bless the work of all who serve in their various capacities here in the United States Capitol.

Bless all those who visit the Capitol this day, be they American citizens or visitors or guests of our Nation. May they be inspired by this monument to the noble idea of human freedom and its guarantee by the democratic experiment that is the United States.

God, bless America, and may all that is done 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.

GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS

(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, during the Memorial Day work period, I was grateful to participate on a congressional delegation visiting with servicemembers and our allies. We went to thank them, but the reality is our new greatest generation has inspired us.

We began at Pristina, Kosovo, where NATO personnel are nurturing a 5-year-old nation with a Muslim majority while respecting the rights of a Christian minority.

In Germany, we thanked the dedicated personnel of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center for lifesaving care of courageous warriors for freedom. At Kaiserslautern, the American City of Germany, we were reassured of Germany's appreciation of America's promoting peace through strength.

Across Afghanistan, we witnessed a developing civil society from the rubble of a Soviet occupation. Our heroic personnel have trained 352,000 Afghans into an effective force to protect the civilian population from cowardly terrorists.

To protect American families at home, we must deny safe havens from terrorists overseas.

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

AMNESTY IS NOT THE ANSWER

(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, both the President and the Senate have immigration plans with a central component of amnesty for those who are in the country without the benefit of citizenship.

Past experience has shown us that amnesty hinders us from creating the actual solution to our problems. Remember Congress, in 1986, allowed amnesty during the Reagan administration. We were then promised solutions, but those have not been met.

But let's focus for just a minute on the reality and forget the rhetoric. Which country has been the most welcoming to new citizens? Which country has offered the oath of citizenship to more people who chose to legally enter that country? If you look at this chart, you see it on the far end. It's the United States of America, where, in 2010, 1 million new residents were offered the oath of citizenship. That's better than Turkey, better than Belgium, better than Germany.

Look, amnesty will not solve the problems of drug violence and firearms. In Texas, increased border patrol has been asked for but not delivered, and fencing along the southwest border has been canceled.

We already do a good job allowing new citizens into our country. Perhaps if we focus on securing our borders instead of rewarding or offering amnesty, some of the problems would become more manageable.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H2967

STUDENT LOAN RATE HIKES

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, student loan interest rates are scheduled to double July 1 unless the President and Senate act now to remove politics from the rate-setting process.

No amount of White House campaigning will stop the increase. We have to work together. And that shouldn't be hard since House Republicans already share a great deal of common ground with President Obama's own interest rate proposal. He asked for a permanent solution to Washington's interest rate conundrum. He asked that the solution anchor rates in the market and away from election cycles and that it include protections for the most vulnerable. The Smarter Solutions for Students Act, passed by the House with bipartisan support, meets those criteria.

Our solution to stop rates from doubling provides a good starting point for Senate Democrats and President Obama to take action before July 1. The President must not cede this common ground to empty speeches and political posturing.

Let's build on the common ground to keep rates from doubling.

PRESIDENT'S COMPETENCY
CALLED INTO QUESTION

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

Mr. BRIDENSTINE. Mr. Speaker, the President's Justice Department sold weapons to narcoterrorists south of our border who killed one of our finest.

The President's State Department lied about Benghazi with false information provided by the White House.

The President's Attorney General authorized spying on a Fox News journalist and his family for reporting on a North Korean nuclear test.

The President's Justice Department confiscated phone records of the Associated Press because they reported on a thwarted terrorist attack.

The President's Treasury Department uses the IRS to target political opposition.

The President's Health and Human Services Secretary pressures the insurance companies she is supposed to regulate to promote ObamaCare, which is the same law she uses to force citizens to pay for abortion-inducing drugs against their religious liberties.

Mr. Speaker, the President's dishonesty, incompetence, vengefulness, and lack of moral compass lead many to suggest that he is not fit to lead. The only problem is that his Vice President is equally unfit and even more embarrassing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair advises Members to refrain from improper references to the President and Vice President.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY
OF TIANANMEN SQUARE

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

Mr. WOLF. Twenty-four years ago, peaceful, pro-democracy demonstrators gathered in Tiananmen Square were brutally crushed by the People's Liberation Army. The Chinese Government remains frightened by the spirit that animated that protest.

I will submit for the RECORD an article from today's Washington Post, which reported that:

In the 2½ decades since the protests' violent end, China's government has largely scrubbed Tiananmen from history.

In 1991, Congressman CHRIS SMITH and I traveled to China where we visited Beijing Prison Number One, which housed approximately 40 Tiananmen Square protesters. While our request to visit the demonstrators was denied, we left with a pair of socks made by prisoners for export to the West.

The events of the past and the continued repression today are made worse by this administration's failure to prioritize human rights in our relationship with China.

Will President Obama even mention Tiananmen in his summit with the Chinese President this week, or will he abide by the censor's wishes and pretend it never happened?

□ 1410

IT'S 2013

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

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, it's 2013, and the world is full of successful women, women like my mother, who raised her two sons on her own while working at the Delta Faucet factory in Greensburg.

Some women, like my wife—a successful full-time lawyer and a successful full-time mother—balance career with family and still find time to celebrate good report cards, birthday parties, and family vacations.

Last week, a national debate broke out over reports that 4 out of 10 households now have women as the lead breadwinner. I live in and grew up in two such households.

Strong women are central to today's family, and that is a good thing. I look forward to a time when statistics about the success of women are no longer newsworthy.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE
OF THE LEGISLATIVE
COUNSEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Peter Szwec, Senior Systems Analyst, Office of the Legislative Counsel:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL,
Washington, DC, May 28, 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 United States District Court for the District of Arizona, for witness testimony.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House, except to the extent that questions put to me seek information that is privileged.

Sincerely,

PETER SZWEC,
Senior System Analyst.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by Speaker pro tempore WOLF on Friday, May 24, 2013:

H.R. 258, to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to fraudulent representations about having received military decorations or medals.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1602

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York) at 4 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

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.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

SAFEGUARDING AMERICA'S
PHARMACEUTICALS ACT OF 2013

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1919) to amend the Federal Food,