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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of grace and goodness, thank You for giving us another day.

As we come on the heels of a long day considering Homeland Security appropriations, we ask Your blessing of strength and perseverance that each Member may best serve their constituents and our entire Nation.

May it be their purpose to see to the hopes of so many Americans that they authenticate the grandeur and glory of the ideals and principles of our democracy with the work they do.

Grant that the men and women of the people's House find the courage and wisdom to work together to forge solutions to the many needs of our Nation and ease the anxieties of so many.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. WALORSKI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. WALORSKI 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

MILITARY SEXUAL ASSAULT BILL

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

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, last night the House Armed Services Committee approved its version of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014.

Included was a provision I sponsored, along with Congresswoman LORETTA SANCHEZ, to extend whistleblower protections to victims of military sexual abuse. This bipartisan proposal will strengthen whistleblower protection laws and ensure that victims are protected from punishment for reporting sexual assault in the military.

The Pentagon recently reported that an estimated 26,000 servicemembers were sexually assaulted last year with just over 3,000 cases reported. This one statistic alone is chilling, and it's only the tip of the iceberg.

Our military represents the bravest men and women in the Nation, and growing reports of sexual assault and underreporting are sadly tarnishing the reputation of our Armed Forces. This bill gets to the root of the problem by creating a safe reporting environment and demanding accountability from our military leaders.

Passage of this bill will be a step in the right direction to help victims and restore trust in our military.

I am pleased this bipartisan provision is one step closer to becoming law.

ENERGY SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS

(Mr. WELCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Government spends more than \$6.5 billion on energy costs every year to heat, cool, and power roughly 500,000 buildings and facilities.

Currently, the administration is auditing Federal agencies for cost savings and has found billions of dollars that are available in savings.

Here's how they work:

Energy savings performance contracts allow a public-private partnership where the Federal agency contracts with an energy service company to conduct energy audits and design and implement energy-saving improvements. There is no cost to the taxpayer. The payment to the contractor comes from savings that are reaped down the line.

It's a win-win-win for the taxpayer, the economy, and the environment. ESPCs lead to local, nonexportable jobs. In fact, every million dollars of ESPC contracting results in the creation of 10 local jobs. ESPCs have already proven themselves to drastically reduce carbon emissions and water usage at Federal facilities.

This is something we can and should do together: save money, create jobs, and improve the environment.

MILITARY SEXUAL ASSAULTS

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

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, the United States military is the most capable and most professional fighting force in history. But while our military is adept at meeting external threats, it has had a more difficult time combating the epidemic of sexual assault and sexual misconduct in its ranks.

Earlier today, the Armed Services Committee passed this year's defense

□ 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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bill. I am proud to have supported provisions that will help us tackle the problem of sexual assault in the military by holding perpetrators accountable, protecting victims, and maintaining good order and discipline. I'm particularly pleased that Representative SPEIER and I were able to add whistleblower protection enhancements.

Our men and women in uniform must be able to depend on one another and trust their command will protect them from sexual predators. These crimes inflict lasting damage on individuals and compromise the effectiveness of our military. I am committed to solving this terrible problem once and for all.

SILAS EDENFIELD

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

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Silas Edenfield, a 4-year-old boy from my district in Georgia who passed away on May 25 of cancer, just shy of his fifth birthday on June 4.

During his illness, more than 50,000 people from as far away as Australia paid tribute to Silas on social media, joining in his efforts to raise awareness of his deadly disease.

Silas loved Jesus and sea turtles and never let his illness get him down. At his young age, he inspired everyone he met with his bright smile and positive attitude. As one person said, "He brought our community together."

I extend my heartfelt condolences to Silas' family and the community that supported him. His memory will live on with the people whose lives he touched, including this proud Congressman.

JOBS, A PART OF THE AMERICAN DREAM

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, nearly 4.5 million Americans have been without a job for 27 weeks or longer. This number is equal to the entire population of the greater Houston area. This should not happen in America. A job is fundamental. It gives individuals the chance to contribute both to their family and to the economy.

America has always been a land of opportunity, growth, and prosperity. Sadly, Washington's policies over the last 4 years are preventing job creators from growing their businesses and creating job opportunities for these 4.5 million Americans out of work.

The endless regulations, tax increases, and the burdens of complying with ObamaCare have made the Federal Government too big and out of control.

Instead of continuing with its flawed policies that are crippling America's future, I hope the President and his administration will work with the House

Republicans as we continue with our plan for economic growth and jobs, that cuts spending, balances the budget, lowers health care costs, eliminates red tape, takes important steps towards energy independence, and encourages responsible oversight of out-of-control government agencies like the IRS.

Mr. Speaker, America is about the American Dream, not the American scheme.

UNREST AND BRUTALITY IN TURKEY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to condemn the excessive force used by Turkish police on demonstrators in Istanbul.

The past few days, these individuals used their rights to assemble and express their displeasure with their government's policies. They called attention to what they view as increasing government curtailment of their rights, but they were met with aggressive violence.

Perhaps just as shocking, most Turkish news outlets did not even cover these events as they unfolded because they feared that they would anger the government and they would go to jail, and because the government controls large parts of the media in Turkey.

This is not the response of a free and democratic society. We expect more from our allies, and I call on Prime Minister Erdogan to condemn this brutal police action and urge the Turkish authorities to exercise restraint.

I also urge both parties to resolve their differences swiftly and peacefully in a manner that respects the rights of all Turkish citizens.

UNFAIR PRACTICES AT THE IRS

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, it has become increasingly clear in the last few weeks that certain IRS employees engaged in unfair practices targeting Americans because of their religious or political beliefs. The scrutiny was improperly frequent and systemic. The questions asked of certain groups were intrusive and inappropriate.

A well-functioning government must ensure that those in positions of influence are committed to serving with impartiality and fairness. Revelations that the IRS targeted groups based on their religious or political affiliation undermine the public trust. I think we can all agree that regardless of one's political views, equal treatment under the law is a fundamental right that cannot and should not be broken.

We were sent to Congress to ensure that these fundamental rights are

upheld. We must continue to work aggressively to root out the causes of this serious breach of trust by the IRS.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material for further consideration on H.R. 2217.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 243 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2217.

Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HULTGREN) kindly resume the chair.

□ 0920

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, with Mr. HULTGREN (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) had been disposed of, and the bill had been read through page 93, line 9.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

This Act may be cited as the "Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2014".

Mr. CARTER. I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CARTER) having assumed the chair, Mr. HULTGREN, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 22 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.