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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: Dear Lord, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We come to You as a Nation in the midst of great uncertainty and worry. As people look for causes and solutions, the temptation is great to seek ideological position.

We ask that You might send Your spirit of peace and reconciliation, that instead of ascendancy over opponents, the Members of this people's House, and all elected to represent our Nation, might work together, humbly, recognizing the best in each other's hopes, to bring stability and direction toward a strong future.

This Chamber will soon be silent, Members gone for the August recess. The weather continues to damage crops, the economy continues to struggle, sequestration threatens interests of all Americans from a myriad of points of view.

During these coming weeks, may all Americans find respite from their struggles, and may all Members of this people's House find rest and resolve to return to the service of these United States as citizens empowered by their constituents to address the needs of the Nation.

May all that is done 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SHIMKUS 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.

IN MEMORY OF CARLA ANDERSON

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember and recall the life of Carla Anderson. Carla passed away on July 23 after a month-long fight against an infection. She was 52, a loving mother, devoted wife, and the successful deputy executive director of the Next Generation 9-1-1 Institute. It was in this capacity that I had the real privilege to work with her.

The 9-1-1 Institute became the Next Generation 9-1-1 Institute as technology continued to move forward. Congresswoman ANNA ESHOO and I worked closely with the institute in our position as coauthors of the congressional E911 Caucus.

Carla's hard work played a vital role in the passage and enactment of significant legislation passed by Congress to advance 911 services. In so doing, many lives have been saved, as first responders throughout the country cannot only receive calls, but identify the location of the call. In the first responder community, time saves lives; and as technology improved, Carla en-

sured that the legislation and education of Members improved with it.

Carla was laid to rest in her beloved North Dakota. She will be missed by us and the first responder community throughout this country.

IN TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN PATRICK LEFERE

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

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Lefere, who recently retired after 27 years of service in the United States Navy.

Captain Lefere has a proven commitment of valor to his country by fighting for freedom and democracy throughout the world. In his 27 years of service, he completed four different deployments and will be remembered in the service for his strong character, work ethic, and love of country.

It is with pleasure that we can say that Captain Lefere will continue his career in public service as a director of operations and planning in the Monroe County School Board.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my best wishes to Captain Lefere on his retirement and in particular to his family and to his wife, Wendy. Our thanks for his continuing contribution to our country and our community.

COMBATING SEX TRAFFICKING

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the sad truth about sex trafficking in the United States. The Department of Justice reports that between 2008 and 2010, 83 percent of sex trafficking victims found in this country were U.S. citizens and 40 percent of cases involved

□ 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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the sexual exploitation of children. Just this week, the FBI rescued 105 children from exploitation in 76 U.S. cities, including one from my home State in Minnesota.

Sadly, this is an all-too-common occurrence. The FBI has identified the Twin Cities as one of the Nation's 13 largest centers for child prostitution.

That is why I've introduced the Child Sex Trafficking Data and Response Act with Congresswoman SLAUGHTER, my colleague. We need to improve data systems that track missing children, as well as provide proper designation to ensure that the victims receive the care and help they need.

Through increased awareness and a better understanding of this issue, as well as compassion for the victims of sex trafficking, we can take real steps to make sure we stop the abuse of our most vulnerable.

GOING HOME IS UNACCEPTABLE

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

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I have a simple question: Why are we going home in August? It's really not a rhetorical question.

All across southern Minnesota and across this country, farmers and ranchers have been up for hours quietly going about their business of feeding, clothing, and powering the world; and here we sit a year later without a farm bill to give them the certainty they've asked for.

We disagreed on how the farm bill was done here, but this House passed one, the Senate passed one; and just like that Saturday morning cartoon, "I'm just a bill sitting on Capitol Hill," we have to get together to finish that. That's called a conference. The Senate appointed their conferees. All you have to do, Mr. Speaker—very seldom do you get this simple choice—is appoint conferees and finish our business for America or go on vacation. That's the choice you get today.

I taught sixth grade for many years. The rule in our class was you don't go to recess until you finish your work. I often hear from my friends that we need to run government like a business. What business owner shuts the door and goes home before finishing critical work?

Appoint conferees, finish the farm bill, give certainty, do your work that we're being paid for, and finish the farm bill.

ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS DESTROY JOBS

(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, overreaching regulations are stifling economic growth and destroy-

ing jobs. Last year, the administration enacted 1,172 new regulations, which is 16 percent more than 2011. At the current rate the administration operates, increasing regulations have become the new normal.

House Republicans have a plan to stop the record-breaking volume of red tape on small businesses. This week, House Republicans passed legislation to address this government abuse. America's job creators should be more concerned about creating jobs than worrying about complying with confusing mandates. American taxpayers should be able to keep their hard-earned money, provide for their families rather than facing the burden of higher taxes.

It's time to put our economy back on track to job creation. It's my hope that the President and Senate will join with us to make full-time job creation the new normal.

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

MEDICARE

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, 48 years ago this week, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law legislation that formally established Medicare and Medicaid—promises to seniors that following a lifetime of hard work, they'd be able to retire with economic security and peace of mind and always have access to the guarantee of quality, affordable health care.

For nearly half a century, Medicare has provided critical benefits and health care services for seniors in my home State of Rhode Island and all across this country. Today, nearly 200,000 Rhode Islanders receive Medicare benefits. Despite its remarkable success, the promise made through Medicare has come under attack in recent years from my friends on the other side of the aisle.

This week, instead of working with Democrats to address the many challenges facing our country, House Republicans are holding their 40th vote to undermine the Affordable Care Act, a historic health care reform that strengthens Medicare and ensures it can continue to serve seniors today and for generations to come.

Our constituents deserve better. Let's set aside partisan politics and commit to preserving Medicare so it will continue to provide critical benefits for hardworking seniors in my home State of Rhode Island and all across this great Nation.

CITIZEN HERO AWARD

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great privilege I rise today to an-

nounce the very first recipient of my Citizen Hero Award. I'm so blessed to represent the great people of the 14th District of Illinois.

I created this award to honor exemplary constituents in my district who inspire others with their meritorious actions. It's my distinct pleasure to announce Pingree Grove's Adam Castellanos as the award's first recipient. For over 6 years, he has served as a TSA officer at Chicago O'Hare International Airport.

While on duty last month, Adam Castellanos, along with his Transportation Security Administration colleagues, Jacob Neal and Marvin Jackson, helped save a passenger's life. Upon discovering the passenger had passed out and was unconscious, Adam grabbed the closest AED unit and brought it to the man's side while his colleagues called paramedics and performed CPR. I commend their quick-thinking teamwork to save the man's life.

Mr. Castellanos, thank you for your service. It is my pleasure to represent you, and I extend my heartfelt gratitude with this award.

JOBS AND JUSTICE

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

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, this month, America celebrates the 50th anniversary of the historic March on Washington where men and women of all backgrounds rallied for the cause of jobs and freedom.

The march proved instrumental in advancing civil rights in America and helped in passing the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In remembering that the march was about jobs, it's important that we remember that this Congress has yet to bring a jobs bill to the floor. As we recall what the march did to advance freedom, we should remember that the recent Supreme Court ruling on voting rights left it up to Democrats and Republicans in Congress to work out a bipartisan path to protect voters from discrimination and from being disenfranchised.

The need for folks to come together on behalf of jobs and justice is as important now as it was 50 years ago. Our Nation is made better when we march together to overcome the challenges of our times. I urge my colleagues to unite and pass a jobs bill that is good for American workers and to take the steps necessary to protect every American's right to vote.

The march continues.

JOBS

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, in the President's pivot back to jobs last