

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.

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.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FUDGE 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CALLING ON SENATE TO PASS CONTINUING RESOLUTION

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

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the House-passed continuing resolution and I call for its passage in the United States Senate.

The House-passed resolution ensures that our government remains open and operational; it ensures that our military personnel will continue to receive protection in the field and pay at home; and it guarantees continued care for our veterans. It protects individ-

uals, families, and small businesses from the harmful effects of ObamaCare; and it holds the line on spending—the most critical fiscal issue currently facing Washington and the American people.

The United States Senate should join the House and pass this fiscally responsible measure and avert a government shutdown.

ACA ENROLLMENT

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

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the beginning of a new era in American health care. In less than a week, Americans across the country will be able to enroll in health insurance marketplaces, more commonly known as health exchanges. Americans will no longer be subjected to annual limits on their coverage or refused insurance because of a pre-existing condition. We as a Nation will be that much closer to ensuring that every American has access to high quality and affordable health care.

The United States is undoubtedly home to the world's best doctors, hospitals, and health care providers; and, starting January 1, more than 6 million children, seniors, women, and men will be able to access world-class care at less than \$100 a month. I certainly believe that's something worth celebrating.

HONORING A NEW JERSEY FALLEN SOLDIER—STAFF SERGEANT TIMOTHY RAYMOND MCGILL

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

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, September 21, New Jersey and our Nation lost a true hero. Staff Sergeant Timothy Raymond McGill was killed in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

After graduating from Ramsey High School in 2001, Staff Sergeant McGill joined the Marines and later deployed to Iraq. In 2008, he joined the Rhode Island National Guard, basically to chase his dream of joining Special Forces. Then, in 2011, Staff Sergeant McGill was made a weapons sergeant and was most recently assigned to A Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group, Army National Guard, in Middletown, Rhode Island.

In between these deployments, Staff Sergeant McGill volunteered at the Ramsey Fire Department back home in the State of New Jersey. You see, Staff Sergeant McGill was always committed to his community and to this country. He was truly one of the best and the brightest of the Fifth Congressional District.

My prayers are with the family of Staff Sergeant McGill.

SEQUESTRATION AND EDUCATION

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a government shutdown will damage the economic recovery, slow our growth over the long term, and severely undermine our ability to extend our recovery and put people back to work.

As we debate the continuing resolution, I must emphasize investments in education, which are the wisest investments we can make for the long-term fiscal survival of our country. We are jeopardizing our future as a Nation by threatening educational services, as well as eliminating or reducing financial aid for millions of students attending pre-K, elementary, secondary, and postsecondary schools.

This week, I introduced a resolution to honor our Nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities. I am concerned that these institutions will be disproportionately affected by any cuts. Each day, Historically Black Colleges and Universities help us bridge the achievement gap. The fact is that we cannot move forward as a country until all of our children have the opportunity to succeed academically.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, today I come to the House floor to speak on an issue that is on the minds of many of my constituents and Americans across the country, and that is ObamaCare.

Enrollment is set to begin in only 5 short days, yet there is far too much confusion about how hardworking Americans will purchase their health insurance through ObamaCare exchanges. One constituent from Missouri's Third District recently contacted my office in a panic about how ObamaCare is going to impact her personally as well as her small business. She has reached out to her accountant, insurance broker, and health care provider, and guess what, Mr. Speaker? Nobody has a clue how this is all going to play out.

Unlike the Federal Government, she is forced to balance both her family's and her business' budget. But when she has no idea how much health insurance is going to cost, she has a very large hole in both her budgets that makes it nearly impossible to plan for other things—whether it's new prescription glasses for her child to see the board at school or hiring a new employee for her small business she hopes to expand.

Mr. Speaker, this is not an isolated incident. I have received hundreds of emails and phone calls expressing real fears from folks about ObamaCare. From what I'm hearing and seeing

firsthand, the Affordable Care Act is neither affordable nor caring.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

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

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to put America first and pass a bipartisan spending plan to prevent a government shutdown.

As the daughter of a small business owner, I learned at an early age that it's impossible to succeed without smart planning and reliable funding. Let's keep this lesson in mind.

Millions of Americans will be left hanging if the government shuts down. Benefits for veterans could be delayed; approval of small business loans would be suspended; and the National Institutes of Health and Centers for Disease Control, which monitor disease, may be forced to scale back their services, leaving us vulnerable to a health crisis.

One of the last government shutdowns in this country cost taxpayers \$800 million, including \$400 million in lost revenue collected by the IRS. We can't afford to go through that again.

It is time to put an end to the partisan games. American citizens aren't chips to be gambled with. Our servicemen and -women, mom-and-pop business owners, and families who show up for America every day deserve a government that shows up for them.

Let's stop grandstanding and start standing up for the American people by passing a CR.

OBAMACARE HURTS AMERICAN FAMILIES

(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, ObamaCare is unaffordable, unsustainable, and unreliable. An overwhelming majority of the American people agree that this disastrous \$1.2 trillion law must be replaced with a system that protects the doctor-patient relationship, as has been repeatedly introduced by Congressman TOM PRICE of Georgia.

The South Carolina Department of Insurance has estimated that health insurance rates in the Federal exchanges will increase up to 70 percent for South Carolinians. A majority of other States will have premium increases that will skyrocket, destroying jobs.

House Republicans have the best interests of Americans at heart. We know that hardworking families should not be forced to pay higher health care costs in addition to the financial burdens of everyday life.

The Senate should act and adopt bipartisan legislation as the House did last week.

We join with the American people to keep the government's doors open,

defund ObamaCare, and control government spending.

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

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN LOOMS

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, once again, crucial deadlines loom, and here we are circling the drain, days away from another Republican-manufactured government shutdown due to the irresponsible lack of governing. Instead of forging—or even attempting to forge—a bipartisan compromise, we have another manufactured crisis, putting America on another roller-coaster ride.

Unfortunately, we have been here before, with the other party playing politics and pandering to their Tea Party base rather than doing what we were sent here to do, and that is to govern. It's enough. The American public is fed up with this.

It's time to drop the foolishness and stop pursuing—through threatening means that threaten the economy—what you can't achieve at the ballot box or through legislation.

The implications of this shutdown are real: it will hurt the American economy, and it threatens direct benefits that our veterans and people with disabilities receive. There's just too much at stake.

Republicans should drop this charade and do the job that we were elected to do, and that is govern, pass a budget, and protect the rights of the American people.

WE NEED LEADERSHIP

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, we sincerely need true leadership at this time—great problems, great challenges, great divisions—and yet our President's first call last Friday to House leadership clearly indicated, in his own words, that he would not negotiate. How can this be leadership?

Sixty-one percent of citizens polled recently want spending cuts tied to the debt ceiling bill. Bill, in my town hall meeting yesterday morning, said:

My wife is very sick. I pay \$900 a month for my health insurance. I need that. But I want you to go to Washington and end the spending. Move our country forward. Shut down ObamaCare.

Mr. President, you won't negotiate? You negotiated with Mr. Putin and Mr. Assad. You've negotiated with the U.N. on an arms treaty threatening our Second Amendment liberty. Why would you not negotiate with the people's House and the people who sent us to restore fiscal sanity, economic opportunity, and liberty?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The Chair will remind Mem-

bers that remarks in debate must be addressed to the Chair and not to others in the second person.

"GREAT YEAR FOR REPUBLICANS"

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

Ms. TITUS. This week, a leading Nevada Republican said that the 2014 elections will be a "great year for Republicans" because a lot of minorities and a lot of younger people will not turn out. Well, while the GOP plan for 2014 is focused on voter suppression, I'm here to deliver a different message:

Minorities and women are going to be turning out in droves next year because they see what the Republican leadership is doing in Washington. They see the dysfunction the Republicans have created and are apparently so proud of. They see the Republican agenda that's driven by an extremist ideology rather than what's best for Americans.

In fact, voters of all types are seeing—and will see over the next few days—just how out of step their House Republicans truly are. They grapple not with the needs of Americans, but with the two wings of their own caucus: the far right and the further right.

We need a new agenda.

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PASTOR SAEED ABEDINI

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

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a letter from Dr. Billy Graham to Iranian President Rouhani, calling for the release of an American citizen currently imprisoned in Iran due to his faith. I quote from Dr. Graham:

The announcement on Monday that your country has freed 80 political prisoners is very encouraging. I fear, however, that the current publicity surrounding the continued imprisonment of Pastor Abedini, an American citizen, may further harm the already fragile relationship that presently exists between our two nations.

Today, thousands will attend prayer vigils in more than 70 U.S. cities, calling on your country to release this husband, father, and servant of God. I join them by respectfully asking you to release Pastor Saeed Abedini from prison. Such an action would, I believe, have a positive impact in our Nation, and might well be perceived by our leadership as a significant step in reducing tensions.

Respectfully yours, Billy Graham.

Today, I also wrote President Obama, with other House Members, asking that he call on Iran to free this American citizen and humanitarian. I urge you to join me in this effort.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

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