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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 18, 2013, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2013

The House met at 9 a.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,
November 15, 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

Reverend Oran Warder, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Blessed are You, God of the universe. You have created us and given us life.

Blessed are You, God of this Earth. You have set our world like a radiant jewel in the heavens and filled it with beauty and hope.

Blessed are You, God of these United States of America, for all the lessons of our past, for all that remains for us to do.

Blessed are You, God of truth and justice. Guide the men and women of this House of Representatives. Grant them insight, courage, compassion, and imagination. Protect them from corruption and arrogance, and grant that we whom they seek to serve may give them the support that they need.

Increase our trust in one another. Strengthen our quest for justice, and

bring us to unity and a common purpose.

Blessed are You, God of the universe, and blessed are we, Your people.
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.

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

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

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

Mr. HOLDING. 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 pro tempore. 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we heard yet another empty promise from the President that, by fiat, he can delay provisions of law under ObamaCare that have already cost a staggering 5 million Americans their health insurance.

Now, notice that he has not changed the law. He has simply said that he will ignore the law, and he invites health insurers to do the same.

This is a constitutional abomination. We live in a nation of laws and not of men. The principal constitutional responsibility of the President is to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. If a law is bad, we change that law. We don't ignore it.

As a practical matter, the President's announcement has no effect. Since the law hasn't changed, the criminal and civil liability that a

□ 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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health insurer would incur for disobeying it has not changed either.

The President has cruelly given people false hope while severely damaging the fundamental concept that separates democracy from despotism, the rule of law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to refrain from making improper references to the President.

THE PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of the wind power industry and the Production Tax Credit. The PTC has been instrumental in helping create jobs. The wind industry now supports 80,000 American jobs in 44 States.

Last week, a bipartisan Governors' Wind Energy Coalition wrote to the leaders of both Chambers of Congress asking for a multiyear extension of the PTC. They confirmed that, due to the delayed extension of PTC in 2013, only one wind turbine was installed in the first 6 months of this year, a 99 percent decrease from the \$25 billion invested in 2012.

A year and a half ago, the American Wind Energy Association commissioned a report that found a 4-year extension of the PTC would secure some 54,000 jobs. The PTC expiration has resulted in an average 81 percent decrease in wind energy installations.

Democrats and Republicans have repeatedly come together to extend the PTC. That cooperation is needed again.

I urge my colleagues to support American jobs by supporting a multiyear extension of the Production Tax Credit.

CONGRATULATING ILLINOIS STATE CHAMPION EDWARDSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' SOCCER TEAM

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I rise and stand here on behalf of my colleague and friend, JOHN SHIMKUS, to congratulate the Edwardsville High School boys' soccer team for winning the IHSA State Championship for the second time in school history.

The team, led by Coach Mark Heiderscheid, had a rough stretch in its season, going 0-2-2, but the team persevered and ended the season on a 15-game winning streak to become State champions.

Last week, in the semifinals, the Tigers came back to stun tournament favorite Naperville Central by scoring three goals in a 12-minute span to win 3-1.

In the finals against Wheeling, Edwardsville was led by its tough defense and held on for a thrilling 2-1 win to be crowned State champions.

So congratulations to the players, coaches, and families of Edwardsville High School boys' soccer team, and best of luck for a repeat next year. Go Tigers.

THE BIOFUELS DEVELOPMENT ACT

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

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, when I was elected to Congress, I pledged to my constituents I would come to Washington to be a problem-solver and offer solutions. In this spirit, I introduced the Biofuels Development Act. This legislation will create American jobs and reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

The goal is simple: establish a \$25 million pilot program for the Air Force to make competitive grants supporting research and development, education, and training to produce bio-based aviation fuel for use by the Air Force.

In addition, this initiative is paid for—I repeat, paid for—using unobligated funds from the Afghanistan Infrastructure Fund.

In southern Illinois, the potential for this approach is tremendous. My district is home to a vibrant agricultural economy, as well as Scott Air Force Base. If this legislation became law, a great partnership between those two communities would produce tremendous results, with a positive ripple effect throughout the local and national economy.

It is high time for this body to focus on rebuilding our economy, putting Americans back to work. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this important legislation.

OBAMACARE HURTS VETERANS

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

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, America's veterans protect America and our liberties, which begs the question, does ObamaCare keep our promises and obligations to veterans?

Marcus Langford, a veteran from Huntsville, Alabama, wrote me the following:

I am a married father of two and a disabled vet after three tours in Iraq and over 2 years in Afghanistan supporting our military. My health care costs are \$399 a month, but because of the Affordable Health Care Act, my bill will go up to \$741 a month as of January 2014.

Mr. Speaker, America's veterans deserve better than the 60 percent increase in health care costs that the White House and its Democrat congressional allies obstinately impose on hardworking Americans like Marcus Langford.

The way to do better is to repeal ObamaCare so that America can debate health care solutions based on truth, not deception.

YET ANOTHER GOP REPEAL VOTE IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Republicans are at it again. Instead of working together with Democrats and agreeing to a plan that will actually help improve the Affordable Care Act, they are once again planning another vote to repeal the law.

Don't buy into the GOP spin that they are offering a solution to address the insurance policies that have not been renewed by insurance companies.

The President announced yesterday that he is offering an administrative solution that will allow insurers to continue to renew existing policies. The President has made clear that he is willing to work to address the ACA's challenges. Yet, Republicans are working to destroy it once again.

They can try to paint this plan in a different color, call it by a different name, and dress it up any way they like, but don't be fooled: this is just the 46th Republican attempt to strip Americans of their access to affordable health insurance.

OBAMACARE CANCELATIONS

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

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share a story from a constituent of mine in Cary, North Carolina, about the real impact that ObamaCare has had on him and his family.

He is an independent businessman, diagnosed with leukemia, and he wrote that his income has fluctuated in recent years because the disease limits his work capacity. Medical costs have skyrocketed for his chemotherapy and other treatment but have been well covered by his current provider.

Mr. Speaker, after about 10 years of care under the same health care plan, he received a notice that his current policy covering his family of four is being terminated. The ObamaCare-compliant approved replacement plan will increase their premium by about 77 percent, or \$9,000 per year. This is a serious financial challenge for them, and they may have to sell their home.

Mr. Speaker, after everything this man has already been through, he now has to deal with the frustration and uncertainty of this administration's back-and-forth policy. This is not what he and the American people were promised by the President, and it is simply unacceptable.

THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House