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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FLEISCHMANN).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 5, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CHARLES J. FLEISCHMANN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2014, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

UKRAINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, last week I came down to the floor to ask the community of world democracies to provide immediate financial help to the country of Ukraine. I would like to report that the United States has committed a billion dollars, and the European Union has committed, as of the news reports today, another \$15 billion.

This is critical in the need to help them get their economy back strong after the incidences over the last cou-

ple of months. It is unlikely that Russia will pull back from the Crimea. Prime Minister Putin and Foreign Minister Lavrov have said that they cannot control these self-defense forces. Who are they kidding? Russian soldiers with no unit identification does not qualify them as self-defense forces.

If the world stands by and lets this happen, it will be like Neville Chamberlain in the Sudetenland, quoting "peace in our time" as Russia continues to gobble up sovereign states.

I want to applaud the Ukrainian commander who was the only calm man on the peninsula, Colonel Yuliy Mamchuk, when he marched his soldiers to the Belbek airbase to continue the job that they do in securing and fixing the facilities. It was a tough standoff, but Colonel Yuliy was astonished by the change of events in that he has had such a great working relationship with the Russian military over the years, and obviously, this relationship no longer resides in the relationship between Ukraine and Russia.

On September 4 through 5 of this year, the next NATO summit will be held in South Wales. I call upon members of NATO to now do what they should have done in the last summit. NATO now must offer membership action plans to those aspirational countries that are moving towards democracy, freedom, and the rule of law. In particular, they need to grant membership action plans to Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova.

Now is also the time for us to continue to license LNG facilities so that we can export natural gas to our free and democratic countries around the world, to those who are signatories of the World Trade Organization and also to those who are members of NATO. It is difficult times as you know, Mr. Speaker, but the coalition of free democratic countries must stand united against totalitarianism.

TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, this is the March Madness season on Capitol Hill, when we in Congress greet thousands of our constituents, many who are here to talk about transportation. It is something that every one of our constituents cares about.

Yesterday, I was able to greet hundreds of cyclists from around the country, and then leaders of America's counties; already this morning I've visited with people from the preservation community and a large delegation from Oregon.

Next week, I will start all over again with the American Public Transit Association. These people are all desperate for a 6-year, fully funded transportation bill, with stable, non-general funded money. They are standing on the edge of a cliff due to Congress' refusal—I almost said inability—to provide necessary funds, if not to do it right, at least to do it adequately.

I came to Congress shortly after the Clinton administration and Congress last raised the gas tax. That was 21 years ago, when gasoline was \$1.08 a gallon—and I wonder if Barack had even met Michelle—and there it has remained for 21 years.

Due to inflation and fuel economy increases, the average cost per mile that the American motorist pays to the Federal transportation program has been cut in half.

I went on the Budget, and the Ways and Means Committees for the last 8 years in order to deal with this issue. Frankly, I am tired of waiting. I introduced a gas tax increase, phased in over 3 years, to fully fund a 6-year reauthorization. I was pleased to be joined by friends supporting my bill's introduction—by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the AFL-CIO, American

□ 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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Trucking Association, AAA, contractors, transit, local government, environmentalists, road builders.

I find it somewhat ironic that people say this will be a heavy lift, because there is little support for it. When Chairman CAMP offered \$150 billion last week in his tax reform bill or President Obama suggested \$300 billion, where was their broad base of support? Maybe that is why both proposals were declared dead on arrival in the newspapers the next day.

I had a chance to make my case for both short and long-term funding last week in an amazing conference on America's infrastructure challenges at Harvard Business School. After my presentation, I was followed by the president of the AFL-CIO, Rich Trumka, and the president of the U.S. Chamber, Tom Donohue, who said—you know, they don't agree on much—but they both agree that it is time to raise the gas tax.

One of the best examples of leadership was Bill Graves, the president of the American Trucking Association, who has been eloquent and forceful, including when he was Governor of Kansas and raised the gas tax, saying his industry wants their taxes raised.

The AAA issued a strong statement in support, even though their members are not wild about it, because it is needed.

We run out of money September 30 because we have drained the trust fund. Therefore, the United States Department of Transportation is going to stop shipping out money this summer, which means that we are going to start having local governments holding back on their contracts this spring.

While the truckers and AAA have taken a strong leadership stand—not because it is popular, but because it is needed—I hope we in Congress will stop stalling or dealing with short-term fixes. Let's take a stand to raise the gas tax, have an adult conversation with the American public about how to pay for rebuilding and renewing our communities, put hundreds of thousands of people to work, to improve the safety and morning commute for all Americans.

EATING DISORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, last week people across the Nation and in 51 other countries around the world came together to raise awareness about eating disorders. It was National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, a time not only to learn the facts but also to give people the knowledge and the resources to treat and prevent eating disorders.

Most people know that eating disorders are common in our country. They may even know about them through experience, whether through a

friend, a family member, or perhaps they suffered or continue to struggle with one personally.

What is actually not known is how prevalent they are, the reasons why they occur, and what we can do to prevent these tragic illnesses.

According to the Eating Disorders Coalition, eating disorders impact at least 14 million Americans and are so common that 1 to 2 out of every 100 children in America have one. Although eating disorders affect both men and women, the young and the old, and all the races and economic classes, we know that they are seven times more likely to impact women. In fact, 1 in 200 American women suffers from anorexia, and 2 to 3 in 100 women suffer from bulimia, the two most common eating disorders.

Distinguished by an obsession with thinness and fear of weight gain, anorexia usually results in extreme weight loss because of restricted eating habits.

Bulimia is similar in that those suffering also have an obsession with weight and body image. However, while anorexics restrict their food consumption, bulimics instead purge their food after binge eating.

Both anorexia and bulimia can cause heart problems, brain damage, osteoporosis, and even death. Anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any mental illness, and those suffering from it are 57 more times likely to die of suicide relative to their peers.

Many people are also not aware that they can be genetically predisposed to an eating disorder. As reported by the Eating Disorders Coalition, 50 to 80 percent of the factors determining who develops an eating disorder is based on a person's genes. However, just possessing one of those genes does not automatically result in an eating disorder. Other factors like peer pressure and false advertising can be the ultimate contributors.

More and more academic evidence, as well as a study by the American Medical Association, has linked eating disorders with unrealistic body images found in advertising. By the time our children reach 17 years of age, they will have been exposed to over 250,000 television commercials depicting unrealistic body sizes. Too often, this exposure, combined with other factors like predisposition, feelings of inadequacy, societal pressures, and competition, depression, or anxiety can lead to an eating disorder.

The kinds of altered or photoshopped images found in our media today can cause unrealistic expectations of what the body is supposed to look like, causing emotional, mental, and physical health issues, and often resulting in an eating disorder.

That is why I plan to offer legislation to look at how advertising can more closely resemble the true human form while making sure that artistic expression and the freedom of media outlets is not restricted. If enacted into law, this bill would have the Federal Trade

Commission work with stakeholders like the Eating Disorders Coalition and other experts across our Nation to study the serious impact of advertising that promotes unrealistic body image expectations, and then report back to Congress on how to best stop the destructive impact of this practice.

Together, Congress can have a positive impact on the tragic epidemic of eating disorders. I look forward to working with my colleagues to bring this important legislation to the floor soon.

COMMEMORATION OF FERDINAND VINCENT ALLISON, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to honor the life and work of a remarkable community leader, Ferdinand Vincent "Pete" Allison, Jr., who passed on Monday, March 3, at the age of 91. Pete Allison was a pillar in the Durham, North Carolina, community. He was a personable, kind, and effective banking leader who took great pride in his work, but even greater pride in his family. He fought for justice; he fought for equality when and where he could.

Pete Allison successfully used his banking career to enrich the lives of countless individuals through his involvement in many organizations and charities. The sympathies of the House of Representatives are with Pete's entire family during this difficult time.

□ 1015

Mr. Speaker, I last visited Mr. Allison and his family less than 48 hours before his passing. He sat in the family's living room and participated in our very serious conversation. As I departed the home, he told me that he had been so sick, and my response to him was that I knew he had had some difficult days, but that he must know that he was blessed. He was blessed to be surrounded by a loving and supportive wife and family, and he responded that he was aware of that fact.

Mr. Allison was on schedule to have been inducted into the North Carolina Banking Hall of Fame. Only 24 other individuals, Mr. Speaker, have been awarded this great honor in our State.

Pete Allison was a graduate of Hampton Institute—now known as Hampton University—an institution that he loved and revered. Following graduation, he earned a master's of business administration from New York University.

Highly educated, but not sure which career path he would take, Mr. Allison, upon graduation, made a trip to Durham to visit his family, who lived in this historic community.

His father worked at North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. Mr. Allison was awed on that visit. He was awed by Durham and its thriving environment for African American business.