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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 6, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON 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 1:50 p.m.

HONORING DR. SAM DAVIS

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

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Sam Davis as he celebrates his 30th anniversary as pastor of Beulah Grove Baptist Church in Augusta, Georgia.

Dr. Davis was born in Barnwell, South Carolina, and is a graduate of Voorhees College, Morehouse School of Religion, and the Columbia Theological Seminary. Under Dr. Davis' leadership, Beulah Grove has greatly expanded its reach and increased its rank.

Beulah Grove is 100 years old, and Dr. Davis is only the ninth pastor in the church's history, but he has led that church for almost a third of that century. He has followed in the church's greatest traditions and led it into the 21st century as one of the most visionary communities of faith in the region.

To Dr. Davis, his wife, Beverly, and to the entire Beulah Grove Baptist community, I extend the heartiest of congratulations on this milestone, and I wish you all many, many more.

HONORING HENRY Y. KUHLM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LANCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the dedicated public service of the Honorable Henry Y. Kuhl, a great patriot, family patriarch, public servant, businessman, and close friend, who for 35 years has served as chairman of the Hunterdon County Republican Committee. Henry will retire from his position this June, leaving a legacy that will stand the test of time in the history of New Jersey.

Henry's love of country, our State, and Hunterdon County has served as the foundation of his beliefs and his devotion to our system of government in the United States, based on faith in God, respect for the individual, self-reliance, free enterprise, and service to the larger community.

Henry's record as Republican county chairman is unparalleled. During his distinguished tenure, he has led an organization that has been overwhelmingly successful in producing winning majorities for Federal, State, county, and municipal candidates.

Henry has also been a delegate to 10 Republican National Conventions, helping shape the direction of our party under the leadership of Presidents Nixon, Ford, Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush.

I have known Henry my entire life. He is a respected mentor and ally, and our families' paths have crossed for more than a century. His late father, Paul Kuhl, and my late father, Wesley L. Lance, were lifelong friends.

Henry's devotion to public service has been matched by his devotion to his family, church, community, and business. He and his beloved late wife, Elsa, raised two fine sons, who today are raising, with their spouses, their own families.

A dedicated member of the Flemington Presbyterian Church, Henry has been involved in many charitable endeavors. He is a proud alumnus of Flemington High School and Rider University. His family's business, Kuhl Corporation, is a world leader in manufacturing egg washing and other patented equipment, based on the agricultural heritage of Hunterdon County and of the Kuhl family.

When the Hunterdon County Republican Committee reorganizes following the June primary election, Henry will assume the role of chairman emeritus and continue to advance the causes to which he has dedicated his life.

My wife, Heidi Rohrbach, joins me in thanking the Honorable Henry Y. Kuhl for his service to Hunterdon County and the State of New Jersey. I know that he will be an esteemed leader for many years to come, based on the great tradition of the American people: friend helping friend, neighbor helping neighbor, citizen helping citizen.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, this morning, our Nation's leading climate scientists released the country's third National Climate Assessment. The report confirms that climate change is real, is being caused by humans, and is

□ 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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already harming communities across America. The report tells us that the scientific evidence is "unequivocal." The impacts are being felt in every region, and they are growing more urgent. They are going to get worse if we don't act.

A record drought is destroying crops in California, torrential rains have flooded Florida, and wildfires are getting more intense. Coastal areas are being inundated as sea levels rise. No sector of our economy—from oyster hatcheries on the west coast to maple syrup producers in New England—are untouched. Even allergy sufferers are affected, as the pollen season starts earlier and lasts longer.

The National Climate Assessment concludes that unless we act now to cut carbon pollution, these impacts will intensify. No State, no community, and no congressional district will be spared from climate change. We will all be affected.

And so we are at a crossroads. One path is to listen to the scientists. We can protect our environment by curbing carbon pollution from power plants and oil refineries. We can lead the world in developing the clean energy technologies of the future, like solar and wind energy. We can meet our moral obligation to preserve our fragile atmosphere for our children and grandchildren.

The other path is to deny the science and ignore the growing threat of climate change. We can watch our coastlines flood, our forests burn, and our crops wither. We can let the Chinese and other countries dominate the trillion-dollar market for the clean, renewable energy of the future.

It should be an easy choice, but the special interests that profit from fossil fuels are spending hundreds of millions of dollars to obscure the issues. The Koch brothers, the coal companies, and the oil industry have joined forces to stop any action to address climate change in Congress.

Consider this: earlier this year, virtually every Republican Member of the House voted to block EPA regulation of dangerous carbon pollution. They even voted to deny that climate change is occurring.

I am the ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee. This committee has jurisdiction over our Nation's energy policy. Over the last 3 years, Representative BOBBY RUSH, the ranking member of the Energy Subcommittee, and I have sent over 30 letters requesting that we hold hearings on climate science so we can make informed decisions. Not even one hearing on the science has been held.

Thankfully, President Obama is not waiting for Congress to act. The President is listening to the scientists. He recognizes the danger of uncontrolled climate change and is using his authority under existing law to cut carbon pollution.

The President is absolutely right to act. His climate action plan is reason-

able, it is affordable, and it will protect our atmosphere for our children and future generations. It accelerates a transition to a clean energy economy that will create millions of jobs.

The President has said he is willing to listen to other ideas, but Republicans have offered no alternatives. I have repeatedly asked the House Republicans, If you don't like the President's plan, what is your proposal? But I have never gotten an answer because they don't have one.

Saying "no" to every solution is not a plan. Doing nothing is not a plan. Denying the science is not a plan. No one can accept what the scientists are telling us and fail to support a plan of action. If Republicans aren't going to offer solutions, the President must continue to act. He deserves our support.

We still have time to avoid the worst impacts of climate change presented by the National Climate Assessment. But the window is closing fast. We must act now to stop carbon pollution and invest in the clean energy technologies of the future.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day. Please help us to use it well.

We ask Your blessing upon this assembly and upon all to whom the authority of government is given. Help them to meet their responsibilities during these days, to attend to the immediate needs and concerns of the moment, all the while enlightened by the majesty of Your creation and Your eternal spirit.

The season of graduation for millions of American youth is upon us. May our appreciation as a Nation of the value of education among those who are our future be incentive enough to guarantee its importance in our public policy considerations.

May all that is done within the people's House 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 pro-

ceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. COURTNEY. 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. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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.

IT'S ABOUT TIME TO GET THE FACTS ON BENGHAZI

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it has been 19 months since terrorists stormed the American consulate in Benghazi. Four Americans were murdered. Today, their killers still roam free somewhere in Libya. Why have none of them been apprehended?

Meanwhile, back in the United States, more questions than answers remain for this administration.

Who is responsible for failing to rescue those victims? Who is responsible for the massive secrecy campaign of hiding what actually happened? Where was the administration during the time of the attack? Why did Ambassador Rice mislead the world on national television as to the facts?

A new email has surfaced from the White House entitled, "PREP CALL with Susan," where the administration created a goal "to underscore that these protests are rooted in an Internet video, and not a broader failure of policy."

Why didn't the administration just tell America the truth about what happened?

I applaud Speaker BOEHNER for establishing a select committee on Benghazi to find out the truth. People in government that concealed and botched the Benghazi murders and the terrorists who killed Americans should be held accountable. Justice requires it—and justice is what we do.

And that's just the way it is.