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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FOXX).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 8, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable VIRGINIA FOXX to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:
Dear Lord, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Though we are a week away, as the House now gathers, in the wake of a great American holiday, we ask Your special blessing on American workers, those fortunate to have jobs during these difficult economic times and those desiring work. May they know and be confident of the nobility and sacredness of their labor.

Lord, the task facing the Nation's Congress is a difficult one, which will call upon each Member to consider what is best for American workers first. It is the challenge facing all Americans. Give the Members wisdom in their work, that our economy might begin to rebound, and our countrymen and -women throughout these United States be able to provide for their families to build lives we have all come to expect for our citizens.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GARCIA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GARCIA 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 5, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on August 5, 2014 at 11:49 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 112.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 11, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am writing to notify you that I have tendered my resignation as the Representative to Congress from the 7th District of the Commonwealth of Virginia to Governor Terry McAuliffe. That resignation is to be effective at 6:00 p.m. on August 18, 2014.

A copy of the letter to the Governor tendering my resignation is attached. I am,

Sincerely,

ERIC CANTOR.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 4, 2014.

Governor TERRY MCAULIFFE,
State Capitol, Richmond, VA.

DEAR GOVERNOR MCAULIFFE: I write to inform you of my intention to resign from the 7th District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, effective August 18, 2014.

It has been my high honor to represent the people of Virginia's 7th District and I am grateful and humble for the opportunity to have served them. As such, I timed my announcement to allow the Commonwealth enough time to hold a special election coincident with the general election of November 4th. This special election will ensure the citizens of the 7th District will have representation in the consequential lame duck session of Congress, scheduled to take place this November and December.

There is precedent in Virginia for special elections coincident with general elections to fill vacant Congressional seats. Upon the resignation of Justice Richard Poff in August 1972 a special election was held on the day of the 1972 general election. M. Caldwell Butler was elected to complete Mr. Poff's unexpired term in the 92nd Congress and also to serve in the 93rd Congress beginning in January 1973.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

ERIC CANTOR,
Member of Congress.

□ 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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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR), the whole number of the House is 432.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRA- STRUCTURE TO FILE SUPPLE- MENTAL REPORT ON H.R. 5078, WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES REGULATORY OVER- REACH PROTECTION ACT OF 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be authorized to file a supplemental report on the bill, H.R. 5078.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled joint resolution and bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore WOLF on Monday, August 4, 2014:

H.J. Res. 76, making an emergency supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, to provide funding to Israel for the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats;

H.R. 606, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the "Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building";

H.R. 1671, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the "James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office";

H.R. 2291, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office";

H.R. 3472, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, as the "Sergeant Brett E. Gorniewicz Memorial Post Office";

H.R. 3765, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, as the "Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building";

H.R. 4386, to allow the Secretary of the Treasury to rely on State examinations for certain financial institutions, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5195, to provide additional visas for the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program, and for other purposes.

AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND THE WAR POWERS CON- SULTATION ACT

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

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, today, I will be introducing two bills to address the most pressing national security threat since 9/11, the rapid advances made in ISIS in Iraq and Syria, as well as territorial gains made by al Qaeda-affiliated groups in Libya, Nigeria, and Somalia.

We are seeing perhaps the largest ever territorial gains by terrorist groups in the Middle East and north Africa. If we learned any lesson from 9/11, it is that wherever terrorist groups find safe haven to train and plot, the United States and our allies will inevitably be targeted.

The purpose of this authorization is to end any ambiguity about the President's authority or the Congress' support for a U.S.-led international coalition to take action against this threat.

Passage of this bill also would send a strong message to our allies that the U.S. intends to confront and defeat this threat. The Congress has a responsibility and a constitutional obligation to take an up-or-down vote on this.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

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

Mr. GARCIA. Madam Speaker, the President signaled that he would not move forward on comprehensive immigration reform, and we are deeply disappointed.

However, we should be angry—angry that this House has not had the courage to take up comprehensive immigration reform. For 1 year and 5 months, the Senate version has sat passed, and we have been unable to debate it. All during this time, we have hurt our country, our economy, and our families. The time has come to make a decision.

Now, while the President may have put this decision off, this decision will not work. It is the right thing to do. It is the American thing to do, and with God's help, it will be done before the conclusion of this year.

PRESIDENT IGNORED ISIS THREAT FOR YEARS

(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. Madam Speaker, a year ago last June, I presented this map by Dr. Fred Kagan of the American Enterprise Institute, warning of expanding terrorist safe ha-

vens around the world. The President ignored these signs and underestimated the strength of the bloodthirsty terrorists. This has led to mass murder of opposing Muslims and American journalists.

According to a recent article in The Washington Times, after the U.S. exited Iraq, "It took just weeks for foreign al Qaeda fighters to start pouring back into Iraq to attack the new government. It announced itself as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, now the Islamic State, known as the initials ISIS and ISIL."

The President has been negligent for the past 2½ years, as ISIS fought to seize control of the very country we liberated with our dedicated military, including two of my sons and a martyred staff member.

Radical Islamic terrorists must be fully confronted and defeated to protect American families at home and our allies abroad.

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

We need peace through strength, and I want to commend the gentleman from Virginia, Congressman FRANK WOLF, who is retiring, who has been a stalwart for freedom.

THE FDA CREATES ROADBLOCKS ON THE PATH TO CURES

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, the Committee on Energy and Commerce has embarked upon an ambitious plan to advance the cures of the 21st century and to make them a reality for today's patients and physicians.

I spent, indeed, part of August doing roundtables for the Energy and Commerce Cures initiative. One issue that came up time and again is the potential, the promise of genomic medicine to understand, diagnose, treat, and prevent illness if given the opportunity.

The era of precision medicine is at hand, and doctors need to have the tools, the tools to utilize this. One of the tools is known as laboratory developed tests in order to identify best therapies for a specific patient, but burdensome regulation by the Food and Drug Administration of laboratory developed tests would prevent clinical labs from developing tests to respond to public health needs.

I actually believe the Food and Drug Administration has no authority to regulate laboratory developed tests, and in fact, if they continue to do this, it will only create more roadblocks, more obstacles on our path to cures. As a physician, I am adamantly opposed to this.

This week, the Energy and Commerce Committee will hold a hearing on the future of laboratory developed tests. We must work together to oppose the