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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KINGSTON).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 11, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JACK KINGSTON 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: God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members of the people's House gather on this final day of the 113th Congress, we ask Your blessing upon them.

May our Nation's citizens be grateful for their service rendered these past 2 years but also justified in their hope that those returning for the new Congress and those joining them will move toward ever greater accomplishments to benefit our great Nation.

For the failures of the past 2 years, whatever their cause, we ask Your forgiveness and seek Your assurance that it is Your love that calls us to correcting all failures, not fear of Your anger.

Bless as well those who leave Congress this day. May they be successful and productive in whatever are their future endeavors.

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

Amen.

NOTICE

If the 113th Congress, 2nd Session, adjourns sine die on or before December 24, 2014, a final issue of the *Congressional Record* for the 113th Congress, 2nd Session, will be published on Wednesday, December 31, 2014, to permit Members to insert statements.

All material for insertion must be signed by the Member and delivered to the respective offices of the Official Reporters of Debates (Room HT-59 or S-123 of the Capitol), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. through Tuesday, December 30. The final issue will be dated Wednesday, December 31, 2014, and will be delivered on Monday, January 5, 2015.

None of the material printed in the final issue of the *Congressional Record* may contain subject matter, or relate to any event, that occurred after the sine die date.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

CHARLES E. SCHUMER, *Chairman*.

☐ 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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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. 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 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. 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 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 Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio 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.

THANK YOU, CAROLINE DELLENY

(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, for over 6 years, the constituents of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina have been extremely fortunate to have Caroline Delleney working for them. Caroline began as scheduler in the office in 2008 and, over the last 3 years, has served tirelessly as communications director. When tasked with this challenge, Caroline not only succeeded, but excelled. She established and fulfilled the goal of being accessible and accountable.

At the end of the year, Caroline will be returning to South Carolina to coordinate communications for the incoming speaker of the State house, Jay Lucas of Hartsville. While I will miss Caroline's dedication to the job and ever-cheerful personality, I know she will do a great job for Speaker Lucas and the people of South Carolina.

Caroline is truly a credit to her dedicated parents, Becky and Greg Delleney of Chester, South Carolina.

As she moves to the capital city of Columbia, home of her alma mater, the University of South Carolina, I wish her the absolute best. I know she will do a great job, and I look forward to serving her, as she will now be a constituent of the Second District.

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

TRAGEDIES IN BANGLADESH

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, on April 24, 2013, the world witnessed the deadliest disaster in the history of the garment industry. That morning Rana Plaza, an eight-story building housing five garment factories just outside Bangladesh's capital of Dhaka, collapsed. 1,138 people were killed and over 2,500 more were injured.

Just 5 months earlier, at least 112 people were killed, and scores more were injured when they leapt from a burning building at the Tazreen Fashion factory.

These tragedies laid bare the broken system, ineffective government oversight, and failed corporate responsibility and the powerlessness of the garment workers.

They also left nearly 4,000 survivors, families of the victims in need of long-term compensation. Many of the survivors are unable to find work, struggling with physical disabilities and mental trauma that could last for a lifetime. The injured workers and their families who lost loved ones—for many of them, their only income earner—are now trying to survive economic impoverishment in addition to the painful memories.

In the wake of these disasters, the International Labor Organization helped set up compensation funds for victims and families. Labor groups, the Bangladeshi Government, and several prominent retailers and brands who sourced from Bangladesh have committed funds to the survivors of Rana Plaza. Two years after the Tazreen fire, an agreement has also been reached on compensation for these survivors.

The Rana Plaza Donors Trust Fund needs an estimated \$40 million to provide for Rana Plaza survivors and victims' families, but as of last month the fund only had collected \$22 million, barely half the amount.

Injured workers and victims' families are being shortchanged. Nearly 40 global garment brands had recent or current orders in the five garment factories in Rana Plaza when it collapsed. They owe better compensation to the victims of their carelessness.

RECOGNIZING WILL CROCKER

(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 today in recognition of Will Crocker, long-time Johnston County clerk of superior court, who is retiring this month after decades of public service.

For over 36 years, Will helped thousands of people, judges, and attorneys navigate the court system in Johnston County. He first began his job in 1959 as clerk of Selma recorder court, then later as assistant clerk of court in 1967. Will served with professionalism since winning his first election in 1978 and is the longest serving clerk in the State of North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, Will is truly the "Will of the people." His knowledge of Johnston County history and politics is second to none, and when Will isn't eating at the Coffee Pot in Smithfield, he is enjoying his favorite pastime at night—watching C-SPAN.

Mr. Speaker, Will is one of a kind and leaves a lasting legacy in the history of Johnston County. I wish him good health and happiness in his retirement.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF NEWTOWN TRAGEDY

(Ms. ESTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart, to honor and remember the 20 innocent children and six brave educators gunned down at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown in my district 2 years ago.

The community of Newtown has asked us all to honor their memory with acts of kindness. They have asked us to honor with action. So I urge you to take a moment out of this busy holiday season and to volunteer at a local soup kitchen or to buy holiday gifts for needy families.

Let's honor with action, with acts of kindness this week, and with action in Congress that makes our world safer for all our children. Our hearts are broken, but our spirit is not.

A STORY FROM OHIO

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the hard-working people of eastern and southeastern Ohio to share their stories since they began experiencing President Obama's health care law.

I have heard from many of those I represent who have seen an increase in their health care premiums, lost their doctors, and were forced out of the plans that they liked, even after they were told by President Obama that if