

that we are in right now began last week when we were gaveled in and we were sworn in. It has taken very little time for my Republican colleagues to begin to message to the American people just where they stand.

The things we have seen last week from the very beginning—one thing we saw was an effort in the rules package which prohibited Social Security from sending money over to the Social Security disability fund. This has been done many times before; it is routine. It will certainly create pressure and undermine and create real damage and a scary situation for people who are on Social Security disability payments and who survive on it based on their documented, recorded illness.

But they didn't stop there. The very next day they began to erode the financial protections that protect Americans from the massive collapse that took place on Wall Street in 2008. Already they want to dismantle and chip away at the Volcker rule, a very commonsense rule which says that big banks that hold collateralized loan obligations have to move these big assets, these big financial instruments, outside of their banking business, wherein they have protected assets by the FDIC.

No sooner than we did that, the very next day we moved on to dismantling the Affordable Care Act, making it so you don't get health care coverage, can't mandate health care coverage until someone works 40 hours, as opposed to 30, which meant that there will be people who will lose out on health care coverage from their employer.

And the next day, we were here with the Keystone pipeline. They tried to push that under a bill that wasn't really a pure Keystone bill. It didn't have things like spill protection.

And then here we are this week about to see a bill on the floor very soon which will essentially prioritize Republican gamesmanship over immigration. It will prioritize that over our homeland security. The Homeland Security bill, this bill we passed last year, late last year—you may recall something called the CR/Omnibus bill. It was a CR omnibus bill. We passed a whole series of funding bills for a year's time, except for one particular bill. And the bill that is due to expire is the Homeland Security bill.

Now in the wake of Paris happening just a few days ago, the horrific murder, carnage, and barbaric behavior by terrorists that happened just a few days ago, we now are facing a big fight on what of all things—homeland security? And why are we having this big fight? It's because the Republicans want to show President Obama that they are not going to allow him to use executive authority that is well within his power to do.

Presidents have always used executive authority. The Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Lincoln was executive authority. The bills

that Ronald Reagan passed used executive authority many more times than President Obama has. So has George W. Bush. It is routine. Presidents issue executive orders.

President Obama has done some because the Republican majority has refused to move on comprehensive immigration reform. He has used his authority to prioritize the deportation of criminals, people who have committed crimes, over kids who are valedictorians, and he has done this well within his right as the chief executive officer of this country.

And because the Republicans don't like the executive orders, because they have very divisive views, in my opinion, on immigration, they have decided to have a very short Homeland Security funding bill, which is putting us in a position where we are either going to capitulate and back off on things that the President wants to do or we are going to pass a Homeland Security bill with a lot of things in it that would be damaging to the action that the President has already taken.

Let me tell you, some of the things in the Homeland Security bill are of huge concern to me. I will just share just a few of them. One of them is the Blackburn amendment. The Blackburn amendment would prohibit the use of funds to continue for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

Pay close attention to this bill. This is not what the American people want. We urge the American people to pay close attention, and I intend to vote against these Republican measures.

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, the new year has come with many blessings, but it has also come with a major wake-up call. I rise again to express my deepest sympathy to the people of France, the loss of lives, including our Jewish brothers and sisters targeted simply because of their faith and other innocents.

I stand as well to recognize my friends in the Muslim community who have all come together, to thank them for standing against violent and reckless terrorism. Their voices were loud and present and noted.

I recognize the heads of state, the work of the United States in standing alongside France, our early and long-standing partner in democracy and liberty. Yesterday, some of us had the privilege, hosted by the Foreign Affairs Committee, to greet the French Ambassador and to offer to the people of France our personal regrets and sympathy.

As we look to the incidents that are coming to our attention around the world, let me bring up again the girls in Nigeria, who were taken almost a year ago, 300 innocent school girls. The only thing that they wanted to do was to take their exams.

In the spring of 2014, I led a delegation of Members of Congress to the northern state of Borno. I met the pleading and crying and broken families. I met some of the girls who gave a harrowing story of how they escaped, sliding through the wooded forests, escaping for their lives with just the clothes on their back. Only through a light from a house along the road were they able to get some refuge, and then three of them escaped on a motorcycle with a hero whose name probably will never be noted.

But these girls have no more identity. We are saying bring the girls back, but maybe they are married and impregnated and indoctrinated in this instance with doctrines that were not their life. They were Christian.

□ 1045

The focus on Africa must be enhanced. I thank my good friend Congresswoman KAREN BASS, who has been working tirelessly as the ranking member of the Africa Subcommittee and had a brilliant meeting this morning.

I come now to announce that we cannot stand by as Boko Haram pillages violently, recklessly, with inhumanity, kills with reckless abandonment, with no one stopping them, 2,000 people along Lake Chad, bodies that people are tripping over and finding under bushes and trees. This is a cry for mercy; this is an outrage. The world cannot stand by idly and not look to this.

Nigeria cannot fight this alone, and just as we have announced a concerted global effort against ISIL and al Qaeda, we must do this against Boko Haram. They are not simply a group of thugs. They have connected to this vile institution of terrorism, and they are going up against ill-prepared military forces.

We could point the finger, and I am asking for the Government of Nigeria to stand and ask for help. There is no shame in asking for help. I am asking the United Nations to do more than it is doing. I am asking the African Union to collaborate with the forces that they have at their side with the collaboration of African countries to go to the rescue of the innocent persons in northern Nigeria.

How can we stand by when a 10-year-old girl who needs to be playing with dolls and going to school and looking into the sunshine for an aspirational light of things that she can do in 2014, probably a brilliant little girl, unbeknownst to her, strapped with a horrible bomb and now in death, with her little body splintered by a bomb—a suicide bomber—how can she even understand what they had told her she was doing?

Mr. Speaker, let me close by saying that I am calling upon the world to join in a global effort to fight the terrorist dastardly behavior of an uncaring Boko Haram, and I close by saying that we must reach out to young Muslim boys in northern Nigeria for an alternative to that life.

May God rest in peace those who have died at the hands of terrorists, and we ask for a unified global response.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 48 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless the Members of this people's House. Help them to walk in the light, to share their strengths, and to build upon their common desire for the good of our Nation that they might better attend to the important issues of our day.

May they think clearly, speak confidently, and act courageously to make our Nation better today than it was yesterday. If it be Your will, we ask that men and women of good will from both sides of the political aisle might cooperate in the forming of law and policy.

May we be forever grateful for the blessings our Nation enjoys and appropriately generous with what we have to help those among us who are in need.

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 his approval thereof.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. BOUSTANY 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.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 29

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Mr. Goodlatte; Mr. Lucas; Mr. King of Iowa; Mr. Neugebauer; Mr. Rogers of Alabama; Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania; Mr. Gibbs; Mr. Austin Scott of Georgia; Mr. Crawford; Mr. DesJarlais; Mr. Gibson; Mrs. Hartzler; Mr. Benishek; Mr. Denham; Mr. LaMalfa; Mr. Rodney Davis of Illinois; Mr. Yoho; Mrs. Walorski; Mr. Allen; Mr. Mike Bost of Illinois; Mr. Rouzer; Mr. Abraham; Mr. Emmer of Minnesota; Mr. Moolenaar; and Mr. Newhouse.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS: Mr. Frelinghuysen; Mr. Aderholt; Ms. Granger; Mr. Simpson; Mr. Culberson; Mr. Crenshaw; Mr. Carter of Texas; Mr. Calvert; Mr. Cole; Mr. Diaz-Balart; Mr. Dent; Mr. Graves of Georgia; Mr. Yoder; Mr. Womack; Mr. Fortenberry; Mr. Rooney of Florida; Mr. Fleischmann; Ms. Herrera Beutler; Mr. Joyce; Mr. Valadao; Mr. Harris; Mrs. Roby; Mr. Amodei; Mr. Stewart; Mr. Rigell; Mr. Jolly; Mr. Young of Iowa; and Mr. Jenkins of West Virginia.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES: Mr. Jones; Mr. Forbes; Mr. Miller of Florida; Mr. Wilson of South Carolina; Mr. LoBiondo; Mr. Bishop of Utah; Mr. Turner; Mr. Kline; Mr. Rogers of Alabama; Mr. Franks of Arizona; Mr. Shuster; Mr. Conaway; Mr. Lamborn; Mr. Wittman; Mr. Hunter; Mr. Fleming; Mr. Coffman; Mr. Gibson; Mrs. Hartzler; Mr. Heck of Nevada; Mr. Austin Scott of Georgia; Mr. Palazzo; Mr. Brooks of Alabama; Mr. Nugent; Mr. Cook; Mr. Brindistone; Mr. Wenstrup; Mrs. Walorski; Mr. Byrne; Mr. Graves of Missouri; Mr. Zinke; Ms. Stefanik; Ms. McSally; Mr. Knight; and Mr. MacArthur.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE: Mr. Wilson of South Carolina; Ms. Foxx; Mr. Hunter; Mr. Roe of Tennessee; Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania; Mr. Walberg; Mr. Salmon; Mr. Guthrie; Mr. Rokita; Mr. Barletta; Mr. Heck of Nevada; Mr. Messer; Mr. Byrne; Mr. Brat; Mr. Carter of Georgia; Mr. Bishop of Michigan; Mr. Grothman; Mr. Russell; Mr. Curbelo of Florida; Ms. Stefanik; and Mr. Allen.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE: Mr. Barton; Mr. Whitfield; Mr. Shimkus; Mr. Pitts; Mr. Walden; Mr. Murphy of Pennsylvania; Mr. Burgess; Mrs. Blackburn; Mr. Scalise; Mr. Latta; Mrs. McMorris Rodgers; Mr. Harper; Mr. Lance; Mr. Guthrie; Mr. Olson; Mr. McKinley; Mr. Pompeo; Mr. Kinzinger of Illinois; Mr. Griffith; Mr. Bilirakis; Mr. Johnson of Ohio; Mr. Long; Mrs. Ellmers of

North Carolina; Mr. Bucshon; Mr. Flores; Mrs. Brooks of Indiana; Mr. Mullin; Mr. Hudson; Mr. Collins of New York; and Mr. Cramer.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES: Mr. King of New York; Mr. Royce; Mr. Lucas; Mr. Garrett; Mr. Neugebauer; Mr. McHenry; Mr. Pearce; Mr. Posey; Mr. Fitzpatrick; Mr. Westmoreland; Mr. Luetkemeyer; Mr. Huizinga of Michigan; Mr. Duffy; Mr. Hurt of Virginia; Mr. Stivers; Mr. Fincher; Mr. Stutzman; Mr. Mulvaney; Mr. Hultgren; Mr. Ross; Mr. Pittenger; Mrs. Wagner; Mr. Barr; Mr. Rothfus; Mr. Messer; Mr. Schweikert; Mr. Dold; Mr. Guinta; Mr. Tipton; Mr. Williams; Mr. Polquin; Mrs. Love; and Mr. Hill.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Mr. Smith of New Jersey; Ms. Ros-Lehtinen; Mr. Rohrabacher; Mr. Chabot; Mr. Wilson of South Carolina; Mr. McCaul; Mr. Poe of Texas; Mr. Salmon; Mr. Issa; Mr. Marino; Mr. Duncan of South Carolina; Mr. Brooks of Alabama; Mr. Cook; Mr. Weber of Texas; Mr. Perry; Mr. DeSantis; Mr. Meadows; Mr. Yoho; Mr. Clawson of Florida; Mr. DesJarlais; Mr. Ribble; Mr. Trott; Mr. Zeldin; and Mr. Emmer of Minnesota.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY: Mr. Smith of Texas; Mr. King of New York; Mr. Rogers of Alabama; Mrs. Miller of Michigan; Mr. Duncan of South Carolina; Mr. Marino; Mr. Palazzo; Mr. Barletta; Mr. Perry; Mr. Clawson of Florida; Mr. Katko; Mr. Hurd of Texas; Mr. Carter of Georgia; Mr. Walker; Mr. Loudermilk; Ms. McSally; and Mr. Ratcliffe.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY: Mr. Sensenbrenner; Mr. Smith of Texas; Mr. Chabot; Mr. Issa; Mr. Forbes; Mr. King of Iowa; Mr. Franks of Arizona; Mr. Gohmert; Mr. Jordan; Mr. Poe of Texas; Mr. Chaffetz; Mr. Marino; Mr. Gowdy; Mr. Labrador; Mr. Farenthold; Mr. Collins of Georgia; Mr. DeSantis; Mrs. Mimi Walters of California; Mr. Buck; Mr. Ratcliffe; Mr. Trott; and Mr. Bishop of Michigan.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES: Mr. Young of Alaska; Mr. Gohmert; Mr. Lamborn; Mr. Wittman; Mr. Fleming; Mr. McClintock; Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania; Mrs. Lummis; Mr. Benishek; Mr. Duncan of South Carolina; Mr. Gosar; Mr. Labrador; Mr. LaMalfa; Mr. Byrne; Mr. Denham; Mr. Cook; Mr. Westerman; Mr. Graves of Louisiana; Mr. Newhouse; Mr. Zinke; Mr. Jody Hice of Georgia; Mrs. Radewagen; Mr. MacArthur; Mr. Mooney of West Virginia; and Mr. Hardy.

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM: Mr. Mica; Mr. Turner; Mr. Duncan of Tennessee; Mr. Jordan; Mr. Walberg; Mr. Amash; Mr. Gosar; Mr. DesJarlais; Mr. Gowdy; Mr. Farenthold; Mrs. Lummis; Mr. Massie; Mr. Meadows; Mr. DeSantis; Mr. Mulvaney; Mr. Buck; Mr. Walker; Mr. Blum; Mr. Jody Hice of Georgia; Mr. Russell; Mr. Carter of Georgia; Mr. Grothman; Mr. Hurd of Texas; and Mr. Palmer.

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY: Mr. Sensenbrenner; Mr. Rohrabacher; Mr. Lucas; Mr. Neugebauer; Mr. McCaul; Mr. Palazzo; Mr. Brooks of Alabama; Mr. Hultgren; Mr. Posey; Mr. Massie; Mr. Brindistone; Mr. Weber of Texas; Mr. Johnson of Ohio; Mr. Moolenaar; Mr. Knight; Mr. Babin; Mr. Westerman; Mrs. Comstock; Mr. Newhouse; Mr. Palmer; and Mr. Loudermilk.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Mr. King of Iowa; Mr. Luetkemeyer; Mr. Hanna; Mr. Huelskamp; Mr. Rice of South Carolina; Mr. Gibson; Mr. Brat; Mrs. Radewagen; Mr. Knight; Mr. Hurd of Texas; Mr. Curbelo of Florida; Mr. Mike Bost of Illinois; and Mr. Hardy.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Mr. Young of Alaska; Mr. Duncan of Tennessee; Mr. Mica; Mr. LoBiondo;