

Mr. Speaker, I spent a good deal of my early adult life in the pulpit, ministering to people from an authority far greater than this government or even this Constitution, the greatest document on the face of this Earth, man-made.

But the psalmists said, "Behold, children are a gift of the Lord. The fruit of the womb is a reward." That is true. Certain commentators will denigrate me for bringing up these truths, and so be it. But they are truths.

Jeremiah, the prophet, speaking of God, said, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart."

The psalmist David, who became King David, said, "For you formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb."

Does that sound like what that doctor was doing in the womb, weaving, carefully forming? No. She was destroying. We must fight back against that evil.

He want on to say, "I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in secret and skillfully wrought in the depths of the Earth. Your eyes have seen my unformed substance. And in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me when, as yet, there was not one of them."

I thank the gentleman from Arizona. I thank him for his courage and standing for life itself and acknowledging the fact that the Creator has formed something of greatness.

And we must not stand in the way, but do everything possible to reject the pain, to reject the defeat, to reject the conquering of the human spirit beginning right in the womb.

May God help us in this country to repent, to seek his healing, to do right, and to spare the innocent among us.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. I thank the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, my time is nearly gone. And I suppose I take great heart from what I have heard here tonight because it seems to mirror history itself.

When people of goodwill finally saw the victims in tragedies and recognized them as fellow human beings, their hearts and minds began to change.

Mr. Speaker, I feel like the winds of change are beginning to blow here. I feel like people are starting to ask the real questions.

And I know that, when we talk about abortion, it seems like all of the rules change. Sometimes you wonder if the furniture is going to start floating in the room when you hear some of the arguments.

But the real question is: Does abortion take the life of an innocent child? If it doesn't, Mr. Speaker, I am willing to stop talking about it.

But if it really does take the life of a child, then those of us in this Chamber standing in the seat of freedom of the

greatest Nation in the history of the world also stand in the midst of the greatest human genocide in the history of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I feel like America is finally beginning to see through some of the facade of the abortion industry and Planned Parenthood's obfuscation.

But I have another fear, and that is that sometimes we have seen such horrors lately—the Kermit Gosnell clinic that snipped little babies' spines, the killing of children that are late-term, pain-capable—that recognition is beginning to seep through the conscience of America.

But I paraphrase an old saint quote that said vice is an evil which is so frightening and mean that to be hated means only to be seen, but seen too often with its familiar face, first we endure and then we pity and then we embrace.

One of the great weaknesses of mankind is that sometimes, when we see evil often enough, we become desensitized to it. Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry has shown us so much evil in recent decades that I wonder if we are becoming a little calloused to it.

Do you ever wonder, Mr. Speaker, or ask yourself: Are we really killing more than 3,000 unborn children every day? Are we really staining the very foundations of this Nation with the blood of our own children? Is that really happening in America?

Mr. Speaker, I would just suggest that it is past the time for great introspection on the part of this country because we are either the last best hope of the Earth or we will simply be another empire that lost its way.

I am of the opinion that America, as they led the way to stop slavery, will someday recognize the humanity of these little babies and see all of humanity then begin to understand that protecting them is really part of who we all are.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CLAWSON of Florida (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of a family emergency.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mrs. LAWRENCE (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official duties in district.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 971. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an increase in the limit on the length of an agreement under the Medicare independence at home medical practice demonstration program.

S. 984. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiary access to eye tracking accessories for speech generating devices and to remove the rental cap for durable medical equipment under the Medicare Program with respect to speech generating devices.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 22, 2015, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2244. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Organization and Functions; Field Office Locations (RIN: 3052-AD07) received July 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Agriculture.

2245. A letter from the Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, pursuant to Pub. L. 106-569; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2246. A letter from the Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting pursuant to Sec. 1028(a) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, a study on the use of pre-dispute arbitration clauses in consumer financial markets; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2247. A letter from the Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting pursuant to Sec. 1028(a) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, a study on the use of pre-dispute arbitration clauses in consumer financial markets; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2248. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Canned Pacific Salmon; Technical Amendment [Docket No.: FDA-2015-N-0011] received July 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2249. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulatory Hearing Before the Food and Drug Administration; Technical Amendment [Docket No.: FDA-2015-N-0011] received July 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2250. A letter from the Assistant Division Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Numbering Policies for Modern Communications; IP-Enabled Services; Telephone Number Requirements for IP-Enabled Services Providers; Telephone Number Portability; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime;

Connect America Fund; Numbering Resource Optimization [WC Docket No.: 13-97] [WC Docket No.: 04-36] [WC Docket No.: 07-243] [CC Docket No.: 95-116] [CC Docket No.: 01-92] [WC Docket No.: 10-90] [CC Docket No.: 99-200] received July 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2251. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — EnergyGuide Labels on Televisions (RIN: 3084-AB03) received July 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2252. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the 2014 annual report on Voting Practices in the United Nations, pursuant to Pub. L. 101-246, Sec. 406, as amended by Pub. L. 108-447; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2253. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification, pursuant to Sec. 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 14-135; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2254. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of proposed issuance of an export license, pursuant to Secs. 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, Transmittal No.: DDTC 14-133; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2255. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2256. A letter from the District of Columbia Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report "The District's School Modernization Program Has Failed to Comply with D.C. Code and Lacks Accountability, Transparency and Basic Financial Management", pursuant to D.C. Code Section 38-2973.05 and an additional report, "Audits of Public School Construction Programs: A Literature Review"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2257. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, Pub. L. 105-277; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

2258. A letter from the Rules Administrator, Office of General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Prisons, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Commutation of Sentence: Technical Change [BOP-1154-F] (RIN: 1120-AB54) received July 20, 2015, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2259. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 1135(e)(1), the "2015 Annual Report: The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Status of Actions Addressing the Safety Issue Areas on the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) Most Wanted List"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2260. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Annual Report for 2014 on Disability-Related Air Travel Complaints, pursuant to Sec. 707 of the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century, Pub. L. 106-181; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2261. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting pursuant to Sec. 202 of Pub. L. 113-146, the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, an update on the status of the Commissioner nominations, the current timeline for convening the Commission on Care, and a copy of the Commission on Care charter; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. CONAWAY: Committee on Agriculture. Supplemental report on H.R. 1599. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to food produced from, containing, or consisting of a bioengineered organism, the labeling of natural foods, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-208, Pt. 2).

Mr. BISHOP of Utah: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1289. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire approximately 44 acres of land in Martinez, California, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 114-213). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GOODLATTE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 427. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law; with an amendment (Rept. 114-214, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CARTER of Texas: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 3128. A bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-215). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BYRNE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 369. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1599) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to food produced from, containing, or consisting of a bioengineered organism, the labeling of natural foods, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1734) to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to encourage recovery and beneficial use of coal combustion residuals and establish requirements for the proper management and disposal of coal combustion residuals that are protective of human health and the environment (Rept. 114-216). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, Committees on Rules and the Budget discharged from further consideration. H.R. 427 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. REED, and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 3119. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at ac-

credited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MILLER of Michigan (for herself and Mr. WALBERG):

H.R. 3120. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Great Lakes basin initiative for agricultural nonpoint source pollution prevention; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. GRAYSON):

H.R. 3121. A bill to improve Federal land management, resource conservation, environmental protection, and use of Federal real property, by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to develop a multipurpose cadastre of Federal real property and identifying inaccurate, duplicate, and out-of-date Federal land inventories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HURT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. WALZ, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee):

H.R. 3122. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into a contract with a non-government entity for the conduct of bi-annual audits of Department of Veterans Affairs health care functions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. FARENTHOLD, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia):

H.R. 3123. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit aliens in an unlawful immigration status from claiming the earned income tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 3124. A bill to permit the expungement of records of certain marijuana-related offenses; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HONDA, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. CUMMINGS):

H.R. 3125. A bill to require the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to report to the Congress semiannually on the number of firearms transfers resulting from the failure to complete a background check within 3 business days, and the procedures followed after it is discovered that a firearm transfer has been made to a transferee who is ineligible to receive a firearm; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BENISHEK, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 3126. A bill to prohibit the Commissioner of Social Security from furnishing the name of any individual in a report to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System unless a Federal court has determined the individual to be mentally defective; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. BOUSTANY, and Mr. RICHMOND):

H.R. 3127. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain National Forest System land within Kisatchie National Forest in the State of Louisiana; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. MULLIN,