

May all that is done today and in the days to come be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PITTENGER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PITTENGER 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

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

UNESCO WESTERN WALL VOTE

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this morning an initiative aimed at delegitimizing Israel was defeated at UNESCO.

Abu Mazen is set to head to the U.N. Human Rights Council for an emergency meeting next week where he will surely spew more of his dangerous rhetoric and even further inflame the tensions between the Palestinians and Israelis.

The U.S. has had a clear policy of defending Israel from these biased attacks at the U.N., but recently we have seen perhaps a troubling shift in policy by the current administration.

The administration's refusal to stand publicly and firmly with Israel emboldens groups at the U.N. to push forward with these initiatives and undermines longstanding U.S. policy. If the administration won't counter these efforts at the U.N., then Congress must use every tool at our disposal to hold these agencies and Abu Mazen accountable.

Mr. Speaker, we must send a clear message to all the member states at the U.N. that Congress stands with Israel and that we will not allow these efforts to continue that seek to undermine the Jewish state, our best ally, and the U.N.

RHODE ISLAND WALK FOR EPILEPSY

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2015 Rhode Island Walk for Epilepsy, which will take place this Saturday, October 24, at Slater Memorial Park in Pawtucket.

One in 26 people will develop epilepsy at some point in their lifetime. Today in the United States, there are 4.3 million adults and 750,000 children who are living with epilepsy or a seizure disorder.

There is no known cure for epilepsy, and it is critical that we do more to support research that will help develop new forms of treatment for those suffering from this disease.

I want to extend my deep gratitude to everyone who has been involved in planning this year's Rhode Island Walk for Epilepsy. I want to especially recognize one of my constituents, Robbie Thorp, whom I had the opportunity to meet with in April of this year when he was selected to serve as Rhode Island's ambassador for the Kids Speak Up conference in Washington, D.C.

Robbie is an impressive young man who has already demonstrated himself to be a strong advocate for epilepsy awareness in Rhode Island.

Again, I extend my best wishes for a successful event to him and everyone taking part in this Saturday's Rhode Island Walk for Epilepsy.

GARLAND DENNY—A DEDICATED PATRIOT

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

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of my good friend, Garland Denny, a true and dedicated patriot devoted to helping veterans in need.

Mr. Denny died last week at the age of 84. During the Korean war, Mr. Denny served our country aboard the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Following a long and successful career as a structural steel draftsman, Mr. Denny spent his retirement advocating for a special postage stamp to raise money for veterans' services.

In support of Mr. Denny, 55 Members of the House and Senate joined me this summer in writing the U.S. Postmaster General urging the creation of a Stamp Out PTSD semipostal stamp to help raise money for PTSD research and treatment.

We remain committed to Mr. Denny's goal of helping veterans and overcoming the bureaucracy standing in the way. Mr. Denny reminds us that one committed American can make a big difference.

His sons, Chuck and James, have joined me today in the House Chamber and intend to carry on their father's mission. May God bless you both and your sister, Sue.

DEBT CEILING

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

Mr. GALLEGGO. Mr. Speaker, as Republicans bicker behind closed doors, the deadline to raise the debt limit draws closer and closer.

If we fail to act in time, interest rates will skyrocket, the dollar will plummet, and the stock market could collapse. That is unacceptable. It is time to bring this manufactured crisis to an end.

Let's not fool ourselves. Even if the Republican leadership does manage to pass a last-minute extension, the mere threat of a default will inflict real damage on the American economy. Economists tell us that the 2011 debt limit standoff cost American jobs and contributed to the downgrade of the U.S. credit rating, and we are repeating the same mistake today.

That is why the true threat to our fragile economic recovery isn't our budget deficit; it is the leadership deficit that exists within the Republican Party. Unfortunately, for conservative Republicans, irresponsibility has become a badge of honor and recklessness a source of pride.

Mr. Speaker, the American people want leadership instead of brinksmanship. They want cooperation and compromise instead of deadlock and dysfunction. Let's raise the debt ceiling and move on to the critical work of building a stronger and more prosperous Nation.

DEBT MANAGEMENT AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT

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

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, our national debt now stands at more than \$18 trillion. If current law remains unchanged, the CBO projects Federal debt can exceed \$50 trillion in our lifetime. This cannot be sustained.

That is why I have introduced the Debt Management and Fiscal Responsibility Act. This bill provides early and clear-eyed assessment of the debt well before even reaching the statutory debt limit.

Under this bill, the Treasury Secretary would report on three items: first, the national debt and debt protection; second, debt reduction proposals; and, third, regular progress reports to Congress on debt reduction. All of this information would be made readily available to the public.

The national debt is a shared responsibility, and it will take a shared executive legislative approach to reduce it. We can no longer afford to put \$18 trillion on autopilot. Let's deal with it head-on and find a responsible measure to retire the debt before it is too late.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR THE ELDERLY

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Social Security Administration announced that there would be no

cost of living adjustment to Social Security benefits next year.

This news has seniors in western New York worried. The price of food, housing, and health care have increased. Without a corresponding increase in benefits, seniors will be asked to do more with less.

The formula used to determine cost of living adjustments is not properly reflecting the senior economy. Seniors spend more on housing, food, and medical care and less on travel and education. That is why I support legislation to adopt a new formula, called the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly, that would give weight to price increases in housing and medical care and more accurately reflect the costs incurred by seniors.

Unless Congress acts, the incomes of 60 million Americans will be effectively reduced. That would be bad for our economy and worse for the vulnerable Americans that we are here to protect.

GRATEFUL RESPONSE TO SOUTH CAROLINA FLOOD

(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, despite the destruction of the thousand-year rain event flooding, it was a testament to the people of South Carolina working together. Led by Governor Nikki Haley and Adjutant General Bob Livingston, our State is a model for disaster response.

I am grateful for our State Emergency Management Division, led by Director Kim Stenson, for over 1,500 successful rescue missions and to all of our first responders for the countless rescues.

Credit is due to Director Christy Hall and the South Carolina Department of Transportation for their tireless work. During the flooding, over 500 roads and bridges were closed. I know firsthand, as the road I live on was washed out, the location of our family home for the last six generations, which was named by my grandmother.

Donations and volunteers have come from across the Nation. The Salvation Army, led by Major Roger Coulson, has provided over 50,000 meals to displaced persons in the flooding. The Red Cross, inspired by national president Gale McGovern's visit, has operated 26 shelters.

I appreciate the positive spirit of the people of South Carolina spontaneously coming together as family and neighbors before turning to government.

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

Thank you, Coach Steve Spurrier, for developing winning Gamecocks.

MUST-ACT DEADLINES

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, well, even some of my Republican colleagues acknowledge that there is chaos in their conference and that chaos has consequences. Governing from one manufactured crisis to another, we have piled up a whole series of must-act deadlines.

In just 8 days, the U.S. Government will default unless Congress acts. Once again, Republicans are jeopardizing the full faith and credit of the United States.

Unfortunately, that is just one of the deadlines that we face in this calendar of chaos. In just weeks, we have got to pass another budget or face another GOP-engineered shutdown.

We have to pass a highway trust fund bill. Hopefully, it is not another short-term patch but something that actually gets Americans working and rebuilds our infrastructure.

Sadly, the Export-Import Bank still sits idle. Fortunately, a handful of courageous Republicans joined all Democrats, and next week, hopefully, we will be able to get that moving again. It shouldn't take that kind of an extraordinary measure. We ought to be able to do it through the normal course of legislation.

This chaos is out of hand.

Hardworking Americans go to work every day. We need to do our job in Congress, and that is to do the business of the American people. Mr. Speaker, we have long passed time. We need to get to work.

SOAR ACT

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, the House this week will vote on H.R. 10, the SOAR Reauthorization Act, known as the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act. This will authorize the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program for an additional 5 years.

At the core of this scholarship program is a simple premise that every American child deserves the opportunity to receive a great education. No child should be forced to attend low-performing public schools when alternatives for parents and their children are available right around the corner.

Education is essential to climbing the ladder of success in this Nation, and this bill takes a positive step forward in giving parents the ability to provide more opportunities and choices to pave the way to a better future for their children.

I urge my colleagues to support this responsible measure, and I thank Speaker BOEHNER for bringing this legislation to our floor.

BALANCED BUDGET PROPOSAL

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

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to bring responsible budgeting to our Nation's Capitol. First of all, this means funding the government every year without a shutdown, but also it means balancing the budget.

Since I have served in Congress, we have been consumed by fights over deficit reduction and budget priorities. We have gone from crisis to crisis, never coming up with a long-term plan. After the crisis is over, nothing happens.

Recently, I introduced a balanced budget amendment that would add discipline to the budget process and require the government to spend within its means. Balanced budget proposals are not new. But unlike most proposals, my amendment protects Social Security, enables long-term capital investments, and ensures that we can respond to emergencies.

In Delaware, like most States, the law requires the State to have a balanced budget. As Delaware Secretary of Finance, I helped make that happen. We should hold the Federal Government to the same standard.

If the United States is going to continue to be the strongest economy in the world, we need to address our budget deficits now. I urge my colleagues to bring order and responsibility to our budget process by passing my amendment.

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NATIONAL DYSLEXIA AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, October is National Dyslexia Awareness Month. This is something that is very close to my family. My wife and I watched our daughter struggle to learn to read. She dreaded reading aloud in class, and worrying what her classmates thought affected her self-esteem.

With hard work, our daughter was able to catch up and surpass many of her classmates. Over time, she discovered her strengths in math and science, which helped her increase her confidence.

It wasn't until high school that we found out she actually has dyslexia. This diagnosis has helped her understand how her brain works and realize that her difference gives her some advantages.

We are extremely proud of how hard she has worked to overcome these challenges and not let them get in the way of her success. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we bring awareness to dyslexia and educate our communities about the impact on families.

NATIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1