

## PRAYER

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

In this season, among the holiest for millions of Americans, many live in fear of the dangers that abound. Just as at Pearl Harbor 74 years ago, violence in our land has been visited upon us.

But in Your Word, You have implored us to have no fear, for You are with us. Help us to put our trust in You and thus live up to our motto, which faces the assembly as a constant call to us. Bless all the peacemakers of our world. May Your eternal spirit be with them and with us always.

May Your special blessings be upon the Members of this assembly in the important and difficult work they are given to do. Give them wisdom and charity, that they might work together for the common good.

May all that is done this day in the people's House 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.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DELBENE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. DELBENE 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.

## KARA ECKERT RECYCLING FOR CHARITY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize a student from Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District who is giving back to her community while helping our environment.

Kara Eckert, who is a senior at State College Area High School, teamed up with a waste management company in 2012 to recycle a number of items, including granola bar wrappers and cereal bags. She also set up boxes at her school so her fellow classmates and teachers could contribute to her efforts.

Since 2012, Kara has recycled more than 18,200 granola bar wrappers, around 3,500 cereal bags, and approxi-

mately 1,800 oral care products. More importantly, proceeds from those items have gone to local organizations, including the Boalsburg Cemetery Association and the Penn State Figure Skating Club.

Mr. Speaker, it is so impressive to see charitable efforts such as this one in the communities we represent. What makes this even more praiseworthy, though, is Kara Eckert's regard for her community at such a young age.

I wish her the best of luck as she finishes her high school career and in the next step of her education.

## TERRORIST WATCH LIST

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

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, terrorists shouldn't be able to legally buy guns. However, right now, someone on the FBI's terrorist watch list can go into a gun store and buy a firearm of their choosing—legally. Since 2004, more than 2,000 suspected terrorists have legally purchased weapons in the United States.

Last week, House Republicans voted three times to protect the ability of suspected terrorists to continue buying guns. This made our country less safe.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I just filed a discharge petition that would allow us to vote on a bipartisan bill to close the terror list loophole. The bill makes sure those on the FBI's terrorist watch list can't walk into a gun store, pass a background check, and buy a gun.

If House Republicans are concerned about the accuracy of the list, let's scrub the list. If you agree that terrorists shouldn't be able to have guns, then put your name down in writing, and let's have a vote.

## HONORING DOUGLAS "STRETCH" BAKER OF NYE COUNTY, NEVADA

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

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Douglas "Stretch" Baker of Nye County, Nevada, for his dedicated service to save and preserve the Tonopah Historic Mining Park. The park, a critically acclaimed tourism site, is a crucial part of the mining heritage of Tonopah and the proud history of the State of Nevada.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Baker has given countless hours of his time and use of his equipment to make the site safe and attractive to visitors, to build a unique welcoming sign and gate, and to promote the park through appropriate signage.

When it became known that the signature Mizpah shaft was in immediate need of repair, the Tonopah Historic Mining Park Foundation undertook a momentous fundraising effort to save the structure and was able to raise over \$100,000.

Mr. Baker was invaluable in the effort, even acting as a crane operator and "adviser in chief."

Mr. Speaker, Douglas "Stretch" Baker is to be commended, along with the Tonopah Historic Mining Park Foundation Board, for bringing the exciting project to a successful conclusion, thereby preserving one of the most important artifacts of Nevada's mining history.

## COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE

(Ms. DELBENE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, the Pacific Northwest has always been a leader when it comes to climate change. However, it is critical the United States shows the same leadership globally. That is why it is so encouraging to hear the reports from the climate summit in Paris. We need to take action not just domestically, but around the world.

Mr. Speaker, in Washington State, we know firsthand how damaging climate change can be. From longer and worsening fire seasons, increased pests and invasive species, an acidifying ocean to more unpredictable natural disasters, a vast majority of the population recognizes climate change as a growing problem in need of international solutions.

We often hear talk about the debt we will be leaving the next generation but not enough about the environment we are leaving our children and our grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, it is long past time for bold solutions and an international approach to combat climate change. This summit comes at a crucial time, and we look forward to its progress.

## PASS THE MICROBEAD-FREE WATERS ACT OF 2015

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015.

Mr. Speaker, I represent a district that borders Lake Michigan. The Great Lakes are the source of fresh drinking water for literally millions of Americans. Jobs, recreation, and tourism all depend on a healthy and flourishing Great Lakes ecosystem, and we must do all that we can to protect this vital natural resource.

Mr. Speaker, microbeads are microscopic pieces of plastic that are included in products like soaps and cosmetics. They are designed to help these products to be more effective. But when these products are used, the microbeads inside them can get into the Nation's waterways. They end up accumulating in lakes, rivers, and oceans—where they stay, and where they eventually collect toxic chemicals

and eventually enter the food and water supply.

Mr. Speaker, the Microbead-Free Waters Act is a great step forward to preserving the Great Lakes for our future generations. As a cosponsor of this important bill, I urge its passage.

#### TERRORIST WATCH LIST

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I take seriously my responsibility to protect and defend the American people.

That is why it is so troubling to me that Republicans in Congress last week voted three times to block debate on a bill, offered by Republican Congressman PETER KING, that would close a loophole that allows suspects on the FBI's terrorist watch list to buy assault weapons.

The shocking truth is that, according to the GAO, more than 2,000 suspects on the FBI's terrorist watch list tried to buy weapons in the U.S. over the last 11 years; 91 percent of them walked away with a weapon.

With all of the threats and dangers that we face, this loophole should be closed. We should make it harder for suspected terrorists to buy assault weapons, not easier.

Mr. Speaker, 80 percent of gun owners support keeping guns away from people on the terror watch list. Yet Republicans in Congress and the NRA continue to block commonsense bills to do what? To allow suspected terrorists to purchase weapons? Congress needs to act to protect the American people and close this dangerous loophole.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE SOUNDS FISHY

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, President Obama is misleading Americans about climate change. At a news conference in Paris, the President claimed that fish are swimming through the streets of Miami as a result of climate change. There is indeed something fishy about this story.

According to the National Weather Service, south Florida has been under a coastal flood advisory as a result of "high . . . tides due to the lunar cycle." This is the cause of the high tides which subsequently led to flooding in low-lying areas.

The alignment of the Earth, Moon, and Sun, along with strong easterly winds, caused the abnormal tides, not climate change. How could the President not know this?

Mr. Speaker, the administration's alarmism and exaggeration is not good science; it is science fiction. The administration wants to advance an extreme climate change agenda that will

damage our economy and have little impact on global warming.

#### THE 74TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEARL HARBOR

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize the somber 74th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

On this day in 1941, our Nation was gripped in shock and sadness. Over 2,000 lives were lost, and over 1,000 servicemembers were wounded. We honor and remember those lives lost during this horrific attack. These brave men and women fought for our freedoms and made the ultimate sacrifice.

We also remember the strength our Nation demonstrated following this tragedy. From the ashes rose the Greatest Generation and a stronger United States of America. As President Roosevelt said: "The American people, in their righteous might, will win through to absolute victory."

Mr. Speaker, on this somber day, we honor the lives lost. We are reminded of the sacrifices made and of the strength of our great Nation. I am forever grateful for all those in our armed services and the sacrifices they make for each and every one of us.

#### IT IS TIME FOR THE UNITED STATES TO BE AT WAR WITH ISIS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy. No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people, in their righteous might, will win through to absolute victory. So help us, Almighty God.

Mr. Speaker, that was Franklin Delano Roosevelt's reaction to an attack on the United States.

Last night, Mr. Speaker, President Obama held a rare Oval Office address to give his update on ISIS. His message—stay the course with the same ineffective strategy. Not as inspiring as Franklin Delano Roosevelt's address when the United States faced another enemy.

The President has promised no ground troops and more gun control. He called ISIS the JV team. They defied American airstrikes and expanded their caliphate, killing everyone in their way.

He declared ISIS was contained hours before 130 people were slaughtered in the City of Light. He said there was no immediate, credible threat to the homeland. Days later, 14 people died in San Bernardino at the hands of ISIS sympathizers.

Mr. Speaker, Congress needs to approve an authorization to use military

force, specifically against ISIS. ISIS is at war with the United States. It is time for the United States to be at war with ISIS, and the Commander in Chief should lead us to absolute victory.

And that is just the way it is.

□ 1415

#### PRESIDENT OBAMA REFUSES TO CONFRONT OUR ENEMY

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have come to the floor and we do remember Pearl Harbor and we remember this day. And we also remember how our relatives who talked about this who served, how they told these stories. I think we are blessed to have that insight into history. It is such a difference when you compare what the President did last night—13 minutes is what he had to say about terrorism and the war on terror.

I have been reading emails from some of my constituents. Their words are this: He is tone deaf, he is in denial, he is the fearful leader—the fearful leader. They want to see leadership that will communicate the message: we are going to find you, we are going to destroy you, and we are going to destroy your networks. That is not what the President has been saying.

My constituents see him as being very timid and very hesitant in this fight. They feel like that he just does not get it. They have a lot of questions that they are asking me: Why is it that he is so timid in fighting terrorism? Could it be that he does not possess the courage to call them out? That he thinks America is to blame for this? Or he doesn't want to offend our enemies?

They have declared war on us. It is time for us to confront our enemy.

#### 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, December 4, 2015.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
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 December 4, 2015 at 10:40 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to Conference Report H.R. 22.

That the Senate passed S. 2032.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 3762.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.