

Renacci	Scott, David	Vargas
Ribble	Sensenbrenner	Veasey
Rice (NY)	Serrano	Vela
Rice (SC)	Sessions	Velázquez
Richmond	Sewell (AL)	Visclosky
Rigell	Sherman	Wagner
Roby	Shinkus	Walberg
Roe (TN)	Shuster	Walden
Rogers (AL)	Sinema	Walker
Rogers (KY)	Sires	Walorski
Rohrabacher	Slaughter	Walters, Mimi
Rokita	Smith (MO)	Walz
Rooney (FL)	Smith (NE)	Wasserman
Ros-Lehtinen	Smith (NJ)	Schultz
Roskam	Smith (TX)	Waters, Maxine
Ross	Smith (WA)	Watson Coleman
Rothfus	Speier	Weber (TX)
Rouzer	Stefanik	Webster (FL)
Roybal-Allard	Stewart	Welch
Royce	Stivers	Wenstrup
Ruiz	Stutzman	Westerman
Ruppersberger	Swalwell (CA)	Westmoreland
Rush	Takano	Whitfield
Russell	Thompson (CA)	Williams
Ryan (OH)	Thompson (MS)	Wilson (FL)
Salmon	Thompson (PA)	Wilson (SC)
Sánchez, Linda	Thornberry	Wittman
T.	Tiberi	Womack
Sanchez, Loretta	Tipton	Woodall
Sanford	Titus	Yarmuth
Sarbanes	Tonko	Yoder
Scalise	Torres	Yoho
Schakowsky	Trott	Young (AK)
Schiff	Tsongas	Young (IA)
Schrader	Turner	Young (IN)
Schweikert	Upton	Zeldin
Scott (VA)	Valadao	Zinke
Scott, Austin	Van Hollen	

NOT VOTING—10

Collins (NY)	Herrera Beutler	Simpson
Cuellar	Joyce	Takai
DeSantis	Keating	
Deutch	Kildee	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1448

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 16th, I am not recorded on any votes because I was absent due to a death in the family. If I had been present, I would have voted: “yea”, on rollcall 695, to concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2820—Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Authorization Act of 2015; “yea”, on rollcall 696, passage of H.R. 4246—National Guard and Reservist Debt Relief Extension Act of 2015; “yea”, on rollcall 697, passage of S. 1090—Emergency Information Improvement Act of 2015; “yea”, on rollcall 698, to concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2297—Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015; “yea”, on rollcall 699, passage of H.R. 3750—First Responders Passport Act of 2015, as amended; “yea”, on rollcall 700, passage of H.R. 4239—Tracking Foreign Fighters in Terrorist Safe Havens Act.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TROTT). Is there objection to the re-

quest of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

WAYNE COUNTY STATE CHAMPS

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Wayne County High School football team on winning the 5A Mississippi State Football Championship.

The War Eagles finished their 12-3 season in a 45-41 victory over the defending State champion, Oxford High School.

In the final minutes of the game, four-star defensive tackle Benito Jones caught a touchdown pass from Reggie Stewart, putting the War Eagles ahead. Earlier this year, Jones was named a Dandy Dozen, which is a title given to the top 12 high school football players in Mississippi.

It takes resilience, perseverance, and, most importantly, skill to beat a defending champion on its home turf in Oxford. That is why I congratulate the team, Coach Todd Mangum and his staff, and the parents and administrators for bringing home the State title.

We are proud of you.

TAKE OFF YOUR MASKS

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Las Vegas Review-Journal, which is the largest newspaper in Nevada and is one of the largest in the Southwest, was sold to a group of unknown investors.

We know little about the details of the sale except that the paper was purchased for \$140 million by a group of financiers, including some who allegedly have ties to Las Vegas. We know nothing about the group, nothing about its business ties, its political positions, or its potential conflicts of interest.

Several watchdog and journalistic integrity groups, including the Society of Professional Journalists, have rightly called for the new owners to be transparent and reveal their identities or risk having the quality and value of the information they provide rightly questioned by readers and employees.

I applaud the many hard-working reporters, editors, photographers, and columnists at the RJ who have protested this lack of transparency and journalistic ethics.

It is time for the new owners to take off their masks and prove they have nothing to hide.

OBAMACARE

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

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, being uninsured in the era of ObamaCare is about to get a lot more expensive. The penalty for individuals and families who cannot afford ObamaCare-approved plans will double next year.

Congress will soon finalize a reconciliation bill that will repeal this punitive individual mandate tax. We urge the President to sign this bill for the sake of American families who can't afford this penalty.

Rather than punish Americans who can't afford to buy ObamaCare's expensive insurance with an equally unaffordable tax, here is a better idea: Let's give uninsured Americans the freedom to purchase high-quality private insurance on a more affordable basis.

House Republicans have and will continue to offer the American people an alternative to ObamaCare. We call it the American Health Care Reform Act. This legislation, which I helped draft and which I cosponsored, will actually decrease the cost of health care without growing government.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to end this costly experiment called ObamaCare and to actually focus on solutions that will lower costs and make life easier for the American people.

REMEMBERING AURORA GODOY

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and to honor the life of 26-year-old Aurora Banales Godoy of San Jacinto, California, whose life was taken in the December 2 terrorist attack in San Bernardino, California.

“Rora,” as she was called by her family, had a caring, loving, and happy personality, and she smiled a lot. She would always lend a helping hand when needed even without being asked.

Rora graduated from Carson High School in California and attended culinary school. She worked for the San Bernardino County's Department of Environmental Health. She married her high school sweetheart, James Godoy, and is mother to Alexander, a beautiful 2-year-old boy.

Rora's legacy will live on through Alexander's happy demeanor and smiles. Rora's passion was to be a great mom and wife. She enjoyed baking, scrapbooking, Disneyland, the Green Bay Packers, and “Star Wars” movies.

We will miss Rora's laugh; but as she would say, “What can I do to get through this? Smile. Everything will be okay, and happiness will come back again.”

BOKO HARAM

(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, as we remain correctly focused on the

ISIS threat, less attention is being paid to Boko Haram.

Over the past few years, Boko Haram has evolved from a regional to a global threat. Boko Haram is one of the world's deadliest terror groups, and it has pledged allegiance to ISIS. It has also been almost 2 years since Boko Haram kidnapped hundreds of Nigerian schoolgirls.

I want to thank my south Florida colleague, FREDERICA WILSON, for her leadership in reminding all of us about this tragic terrorist attack.

We must bring back our girls. We are right to be concerned by the threat that ISIS poses to our national security and to the world; but we cannot ignore the threat posed by Boko Haram.

Mr. Speaker, ISIS, Boko Haram, and so many other radical Islamic groups are being given the time and space to operate; so we must redouble our efforts to defeat these Islamic extremist groups.

CONGRATULATING THE LOS ANGELES CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have had both the sobering and serious responsibility of serving on the Homeland Security Committee since the heinous acts of 9/11.

I rise today to give comfort to and to thank the Los Angeles Consolidated School District for its swift response. I know that the reports of its actions received conflicting commentary, but it had the responsibility for over 600,000 children. I believe, when administrators act seriously, competently, and thoughtfully, they need to know that we appreciate it.

We live in very difficult and challenging times. It is a horrific person who sends false threats and who frightens the general public; but it is a wise leader who takes it seriously to protect his constituents. In this instance, the Los Angeles Consolidated School District, its superintendent, and all of those involved in making the decision to protect those children did the right thing.

We live in very difficult times, and we here in the United States are continuing to try and define and refine our alert system and to do the kind of intelligence work to provide our local authorities with the right information; but, as a parent, I congratulate them for standing up for the children and making sure that those children and teachers and others were safe.

God help us that we will purge out the horrificity and horribleness of terrorist acts.

□ 1500

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, we are \$18 trillion in the red. Specifically, our Federal debt, which is a combination of debt held by the public and debt held by government accounts, stands at \$18.7 trillion. That means every man, woman, and child owes roughly \$58,000 right now, and it will no doubt rise day by day.

At the beginning of the year 2000, we were \$5 trillion underwater. Fast-forward a few years to when President Obama took office, and we were approximately \$10 trillion in debt. Today, we are almost double that.

I came to Congress to make the difficult decisions to help put our Nation back on the path of growth, because right now I am fearful that my children and my grandchildren will not have the same opportunities.

It is for these reasons that I have authored and introduced a balanced budget amendment. In fact, 45 States have some type of balanced budget requirement already in law. It is time the Federal Government follows suit.

My amendment will prohibit outlays from exceeding receipts. It will prevent Congress from raising the debt ceiling. It will prevent the President—any President—from instituting an executive order without first presenting Congress a balanced budget.

Every business and every family balances their budget. It is time for the Federal Government to do the same.

HONORING REVEREND ALBERT E. CHEW, JR.

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a community leader, Reverend Albert E. Chew, Jr.

Reverend Chew was born in a little town in east Texas and moved to Fort Worth, where he served as pastor of the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church for 56 years. I can tell you that, during his time at Shiloh, Reverend Chew not only impacted the Northside community where the church was located, but the greater overall Fort Worth and Tarrant County communities.

Reverend Chew served on the Fort Worth Human Relations Commission, the Missionary Baptist Church General Convention of Texas, and also was one of the early founders of a group, the Black Ecumenical Leadership Alliance, also known as BELA. His church was very committed to the NAACP and often held various NAACP meetings at the church. Reverend Chew, previous to his service in the ministry, was also a veteran of World War II.

He will be greatly missed in the Fort Worth community. He was a great gentleman, a legend. Let's pray for our

friends at the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.

REMEMBERING GRETCHEN QUIE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former Minnesota First Lady Gretchen Quie, who, sadly, passed away this past weekend.

Gretchen grew up in Minneapolis and graduated from Central High School before heading to St. Olaf College, where she met her future husband, Al Quie.

Gretchen was active in local church and civic organizations and was by her husband's side as he served 21 years here in the United States Congress and 4 years as Governor of the State of Minnesota.

With an eye for art, Gretchen was instrumental in upgrading the Minnesota Governor's residence and opening it up to the public. She would often host "Night at the Mansion" programs, where Minnesotans were invited to have dinner and then stay the night.

Gretchen Quie was also a member of Minnetonka Lutheran Church and a community leader, serving on a number of nonprofit boards.

Minnesotans' thoughts and prayers are with Governor Quie, his family, their five children, their 29 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

HONORING REVEREND SAM "PAPA" CRAIG, JR.

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments and the contributions of Reverend Sam Craig, Jr., and to offer my condolences to his family.

Reverend Craig passed away peacefully on the 29th of November this year. He was 91 years old, and he is survived by his wife, Catherine Caldwell.

Reverend Craig was the assistant pastor at First Baptist Church in Santa Ana, where he was a member for over 42 years.

Reverend Craig enlisted in the Marines Corps in 1947, and he served with honor for 22 years. He served in World War II, in the Korean war, and in Vietnam, and eventually retired in 1969 as a warrant officer.

After retiring from the military, he taught for 17 years in our local Santa Ana Unified School District as both an elementary and a junior high school teacher.

Reverend Craig was committed to his church, and he had a passion. He had a passion for teaching Bible study and for leading the Mission Society. Reverend Craig's dedication to education, to community service, and to his faith