

things that could never possibly get passed if people knew what they were voting on. So it is comprehensive and massive so you can hide those things that could never pass on their own if people knew what they were voting on.

So it is amazing to see in politics how perception that is completely false can be considered true just because people are saying it. I know. I was here, and I am grateful that TED CRUZ got elected. Without his advice, his meeting with us, encouraging, doing all he could in the Senate, I don't believe we would have stopped amnesty, and I don't believe this election would even be competitive. The Democratic nominee would walk away with this thing had the Gang of Eight bill been passed as they wanted.

Mr. Speaker, might I inquire how much time remains?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YOUNG of Iowa). The gentleman from Texas has 7 minutes remaining.

Mr. GOHMERT. One other thing that has been really intriguing, Mr. Speaker, this verse has been quoted time and time again in recent years. I know there are people that freak out when I quote Bible verse because they had one of these liberal teachers that didn't teach them the truth about American history and the fact that the Bible has been the most quoted book—nothing even close—so many times more than any other book or any other author ever in American history. The Bible has been quoted on the House floor and Senate floor by Presidents more than any other book.

□ 1345

The President says we are not a Christian Nation. I used to say I won't debate that, and now I think he is right. But we were. We started out based on Judeo-Christian principles, so much so that a very thorough decision by the U.S. Supreme Court back in the late 1800s, when we had finally done the right thing and eliminated the scourge to this Nation that had held this Nation back for many decades, called slavery, was finally ended.

The Supreme Court went through all of the foundings, the Founders, the statements of the Founders, statements and founding documents, statements of State constitutions, and concluded after all of the recitation of evidence—130, 140 years later—they said: This is a Christian Nation. Well, it was back in the late 1800s.

It doesn't hurt to still quote scripture. We have other religions represented in the House—friends. You can be Muslim, Buddhist, atheist, agnostic, whatever you want to be. I have got a number of really wonderful Jewish friends in Congress. You can be whatever you want to be because a government based on Judeo-Christian principles will protect everyone's rights.

Islam will not protect rights like that. There is really not another religion that, beliefs of which, will protect

every religion, no religion, equally. That is because we know. God gives us those choices. So who are we to take them away?

Back in 2 Chronicles, the verse is very clear, and God was pointing this out. I realize Moses—it is up there, the only full face profile here in this room—was considered the greatest lawgiver of all times, although the Supreme Court last summer basically said: Forget what Moses said and God said. He didn't know what he was talking about. When Jesus quoted Moses about marriage, he didn't know what he was talking about. They were a bunch of fools. They didn't know. We are much smarter than Moses and Jesus. Now our Supreme Court majority is our God.

But 2 Chronicles 7:14: "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

I preached a sermon on that last summer entitled "Humble or Crumble." We do need to humble ourselves as a Nation, but we don't even have to do it as a Nation. It makes clear it is not everybody. It doesn't have to be everybody in America. Just those who are called by the Lord's name. If you humble yourself, pray, see God's face, turn from your wicked ways: I will hear from heaven, I am going to heal your land. You will be blessed beyond.

I really think that after the Civil War and we finally ended the scourge of slavery, that is when we started being blessed beyond measure. So the 20th century was just absolutely incredible, and we became a superpower blessed beyond measure. When we became a superpower, of course, like so many times in history, nations that were begun on the Judeo beliefs, once they turned from acknowledging God, then God let them go.

That is why Christians had believed this was such an important verse. I have heard it thousands of times in recent years.

I just have to note, Mr. Speaker, it is interesting now that Christian leaders across the Nation have said: I think we are going to have to change this. Let's have a new translation. How about if we say: If my people are called by my name, we'll select a leader who says he has never humbled himself, he has never asked forgiveness of God, if we can just get a leader who will never humble himself, then God will hear that from heaven and he will heal our land.

I want to close with these words from Francis Scott Key, April 14, 1814. As a captive on a British ship and the British unmercifully bombed Fort McHenry, he didn't figure there was much left. When the morning came and there was Old Glory, he penned The Star Spangled Banner.

I will close with the last verse, Mr. Speaker:

"O! thus be it ever, when free men shall stand Between their loved home

and the war's desolation; Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n-rescued land Praise the Pow'r that hath made, and preserved us as a Nation! Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just; And this be our motto, 'In God is our trust!' And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

May we remember those words.

I yield back the balance of my time.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 238. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to authorize the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to issue oleoresin capicum spray to officers and employees of the Bureau of Prisons.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on February 25, 2016, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 890. To revise the boundaries of certain John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System units in Florida.

H.R. 3262. To provide for the conveyance of land of the Illiana Health Care System of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Danville, Illinois.

H.R. 4056. To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to convey to the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs all right, title, and interest of the United States to the property known as "The Community Living Center" at the Lake Baldwin Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic, Orlando, Florida.

H.R. 4437. To extend the deadline for the submittal of the final report required by the Commission on Care.

H.R. 487. To allow the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma to lease or transfer certain lands.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, February 29, 2016, at noon 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:

4478. A letter from the Director, BPMS, Agricultural Research Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes to Fees and Payment Methods (RIN: 0518-AA05) received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4479. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health

Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's affirmation of interim rule as final rule — Golden Nematode; Removal of Regulated Areas in Orleans, Nassau, and Suffolk Counties, New York [Docket No.: APHIS-2015-0040] received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4480. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Report to Congress on the Study on Raising the Minimum Age to Purchase Tobacco Products, pursuant to Public Law 111-31 Sec. 104(2); (123 Stat. 1841); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4481. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality: Revision to the Regulatory Definition of Volatile Organic Compounds — Requirements for t-Butyl Acetate [EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0795; FRL-9942-80-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR65) received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4482. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Revisions to the Utah Division of Administrative Rules, R307-300 Series; Area Source Rules for Attainment of Fine Particulate Matter Standards [EPA-R08-OAR-2014-0369; FRL-9935-54-Region 8] received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4483. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Fine Particulate Matter [EPA-R03-OAR-2016-0006; FRL-9942-90-Region 3] received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4484. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Iowa's Air Quality Implementation Plans; Iowa Plan for the 2008 Lead Standard [EPA-R07-OAR-2015-0582; FRL-9942-79-Region 7] received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4485. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — D-Glucitol, 1-deoxy-1-(methylamino)—, N-C8-10 acyl derivatives; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0249; FRL-9942-43] received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4486. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Federal Plan Requirements for Sewage Sludge Incineration Units Constructed on or Before October 14, 2010 [EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0319; FRL-9940-50-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR77) received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4487. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Trifloxystrobin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0709; FRL-9941-92] received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4488. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition of Certain Persons and Modification of Certain Entries to the Entity List; and Removal of Certain Persons from the Entity List [Docket No.: 151209999-5999-01] (RIN: 0694-AG81) received February 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Added by Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4489. A letter from the Chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Commission's Annual Performance Report for FY 2015, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1116(a); Public Law 111-352, Sec. 4; (124 Stat. 3871); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4490. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's 2015 Annual Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a); (104 Stat. 2849); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4491. A letter from the Architect of the Capitol, transmitting the Semiannual Report of Disbursements for the operations of the Architect of the Capitol for the period of July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 1868a(a); Public Law 113-76, div. I, title I, Sec. 1301(a); (128 Stat. 428) (H. Doc. No. 114—108); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

4492. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's Report of Lobbying Disclosure Act Enforcement for January 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 1605(b)(1) Public Law 104-65, as amended by Public Law 110-81; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4493. A letter from the Executive Director, World War I Centennial Commission, transmitting the Commission's Periodic Report for the period ending December 31, 2015, pursuant to Public Law 112-272, Sec. 5(b)(1); (126 Stat. 2450); jointly to the Committees on Financial Services, Natural Resources, and Oversight and Government Reform.

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 Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ROSENLEHTINEN, and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 4633. A bill to modify and extend reporting requirements on the use of certain Iranian seaports by foreign vessels and use of foreign airports by sanctioned Iranian air carriers; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 4634. A bill to direct the United States Postal Service to designate a single, unique ZIP Code for Eastvale, California; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 4635. A bill to provide for a prescription drug take-back program for members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and for

other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, the Judiciary, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MULLIN (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. SENSENBRENNER):

H.R. 4636. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require agencies to respond to comments from congressional committees about proposed rule making, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANFORD (for himself and Mr. MCCLINTOCK):

H.R. 4637. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to permit the Government of Puerto Rico to opt out of the applicable Federal minimum wage under such Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GARRETT (for himself and Mr. CHABOT):

H.R. 4638. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to allow for the creation of venture exchanges to promote liquidity of venture securities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BLUM (for himself and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 4639. A bill to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide modifications to authorities relating to the Office of Special Counsel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. JOLLY (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Mr. ABRAHAM, and Ms. GABBARD):

H.R. 4640. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a review of the deaths of certain veterans who died by suicide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana (for herself and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 4641. A bill to provide for the establishment of an inter-agency task force to review, modify, and update best practices for pain management and prescribing pain medication, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COLLINS of New York (for himself and Mr. MCNERNEY):

H.R. 4642. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare diabetic eye disease prevention and early treatment demonstration project; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself and Mr. HONDA):

H.R. 4643. A bill to improve the literacy and English skills of limited English proficient individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 4644. A bill to establish dual language education programs in low-income communities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LEWIS:

H.R. 4645. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide support to environmental justice communities and environmental justice projects; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr.