The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Denham).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC, December 12, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable Jeff Denham to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing as we approach the end of the first session of this 112th Congress. You know well the contentiousness of this session. Look into the hearts of all the Members of this people’s House to discern the good will within. May the goodwill You find be rewarded with Your grace. May any contrary spirit be banished.

In the days that come, help each Member to understand well and interpret positively, as they are able, the positions of those with whom they disagree. Grant to each the wisdom of Solomon, and to us all the faith and confidence to know that no matter how difficult things appear to be, You continue to walk with our Nation, as You have done for over two centuries.

May all that is done today 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.

Mr. Clyburn. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The question was taken: and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. Clyburn. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Speaker pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. Clyburn) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Clyburn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The Speaker pro tempore. The Speaker, pro tempore, announced that the Senate agreed to without amendment the following:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. J. Res. 108.

That the Senate passed S. 1974.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. R. 2061.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. R. 1020.

That the Senate concur in the House of Representatives amendment to the joint resolution S. J. Res. 22.

The Speaker pro tempore. 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 9, 2011 at 10:02 a.m.:

That the Senate concur in the House of Representatives amendment to the joint resolution S. J. Res. 22.

The Speaker pro tempore. Will the House agree?

Mr. Clyburn. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

The question was taken: and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. Clyburn. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

COMMUNICATION FROM PRINCIPAL ENGINEER, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Speaker pro tempore. Will the House agree to the following communication from Grant Scherling, Principal Engineer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer?

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declared the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair. - 1615 -

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER Pro Tempore

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote in- curs objection under clause 6 of rule XX. Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

PERMISSION TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1540, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers on the part of the House have until midnight tonight, December 12, to file the conference report to accompany H.R. 1540.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for S. 384, legislation that reauthorizes the semi-postal breast cancer research stamp for four additional years. I want to thank my friend, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, for sponsoring this legislation.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE BREAST CANCER RESEARCH AUTHORITY ACT

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 384) to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows: S. 384

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that:

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF POSTAGE STAMP FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH.

Section 4(h) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking “2011” and inserting “2015”.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The Speaker pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 384) to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows: S. 384

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SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF POSTAGE STAMP FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH.

Section 4(h) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking “2011” and inserting “2015”.

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GRANT SCHERLING, Principal Engineer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

RECESS

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declared the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair. - 1615 -

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The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX. Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

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The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for S. 384, legislation that reauthorizes the semi-postal breast cancer research stamp for four additional years. I want to thank my friend, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, for sponsoring this legislation.

I am proud to serve as lead sponsor on H.R. 466, the counterpart legislation for S. 384, that was introduced here in the House of Representatives.

The breast cancer research stamp has been of great importance to our Senate breast cancer—both in raising awareness of the diseases, and raising tens of millions of dollars for important research activities.

Since 1998, the U.S. Postal Service has sold over 903 million “semi-postal” breast cancer research stamps.

The sale of these stamps has resulted in over $72 million being raised that has gone directly to supporting breast cancer research at the National Institute of Health.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote for this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move my self such time as I may consume, and I’m pleased to rise in support of S. 384, along with my chairman, Mr. ISSA of California, of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee. I want to thank him for bringing this legislation to the floor.

This bill, S. 384, will extend the authority of the U.S. Postal Service to issue the popular semipostal stamp that helps to raise funds for breast cancer research. The measure before us, S. 384, was introduced by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, and here in the House, Representative JOE BACA, also from California, who introduced the companion version of this legislation.

Cancer is one of the scourges of our society, and this is a truly bipartisan bill that makes a huge difference in a cost-efficient manner. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill without reservation. This will allow the American people to continue contributing to the fight against breast cancer and cancer in general for another 4 years. I urge passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for S. 384, legislation that reauthorizes the semi-postal breast cancer research stamp for four additional years.

I want to thank my friend, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, for sponsoring this bill.

I am proud to serve as lead sponsor on H.R. 466, the counterpart legislation for S. 384, that was introduced here in the House of Representatives.

The breast cancer research stamp has been of great importance to our Senate breast cancer—both in raising awareness of the diseases, and raising tens of millions of dollars for important research activities.

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