The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 21, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PleaR
Reverend Michael Wilker, Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, You give us light in the darkness. We praise You for the galaxies, stars, planets, and Moon that shine in the night. We bless You for the lamps and candles that illumine our communities. We thank You for the fires that warm our homes and energize our work.

We repent for the ways we pollute the beauty of the night, the ways we extinguish the light of companionship, the ways we fail to share Your warmth. 

Enlighten our darkness. Be the dayspring for those suffering from addiction and illness. Be the bright morning star for those who are grieving. Be the Sun of justice for those living under oppression and in poverty.

Be the cleansing fire for those who survive violence and warfare.

Traveling, send us with Your light to share with friends and strangers. Welcoming, light our gatherings with Your love. Searching for justice and peace, light our way.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 493, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN 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.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(b) of House Resolution 493, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Friday, December 23, 2011. Accordingly (at 10 o’clock and 2 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until Friday, December 23, 2011, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

4366. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission’s “Major” final rule — Investment of Customer Funds and Funds Held in an Account for Foreign Futures and Foreign Options Transactions (RIN: 3038-AC79) received December 19, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4367. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Funding and Fiscal Affairs, Loan Policies and Operations, and Funding Operations; Liquidity and Funding (RIN: 3052-AC54) received December 7, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4368. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter regarding the submission of the report on DoD purchases from foreign entities; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4369. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting written notification of the determination that a public health emergency exists and has existed in the State of Missouri since May 22, 2011, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 247d(a) Public Law 107-188, section 144(a); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4370. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 201(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31,
4371. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 11-51, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4372. A letter from the Assistant Legal Advisor for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting report prepared by the Department of State concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4373. A letter from the Director of Administration, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2011; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4374. A letter from the Chief Human Capital Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting 2 reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4375. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2011; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4376. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2011; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4377. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's annual report on the administration of the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program, pursuant to Public Law 109-99, section 6005(h); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4378. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Relief With Respect to IRA's Whose Owners Have Entered Into Certain Agreements With Brokers or Other Financial Institutions [Announcement 2011-81] received December 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.


REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. Second Semianual Report of the Activities of the Committee on Energy and Commerce for the 112th Congress (Rept. 112-337). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.
December 21, 2011

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RETIREMENT OF MS. LINDA MOODY AFTER NEARLY 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 21, 2011

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ms. Linda Moody for her lifetime commitment to public service. For the past 47 years, Ms. Moody has worked tirelessly with the Northampton County Department of Social Services, most recently as an Administrative Officer. In her role, she facilitated in helping those in need and advocated for the proper care of children and citizens who are blind and visually impaired.

Linda Moody helped grow the organization during its infant stages by providing counseling and instruction to hundreds of employees. She successfully trained and mentored an army of social workers, who now follow in her footsteps. Ms. Moody has been recognized by her peers on several occasions for her outstanding contribution to the social services unit of Northampton County. And, Ms. Moody is even a charter member of the North Carolina Social Services Association, an outlet that allows her to continue advocacy on behalf of disadvantaged families and raise funds for their well-being.

However, in her nearly five decades-long career, Ms. Moody credits her primary achievement as helping to ensure the welfare of children and parents.

In addition to her outstanding professional achievements, Ms. Moody is an active member of many civic organizations including her church, Seaboard United Methodist Church, where she is the Music Director and Sunday School Superintendent.

Mr. Speaker, Linda Moody is a living illustration of the kindheartedness and selfless spirit that makes North Carolinians great. On behalf of the people of the First Congressional District of North Carolina, I thank Ms. Linda Moody for her invaluable contribution to her community and state.

MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE ON H.R. 3630, MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF
HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, December 20, 2011

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, in less than two weeks, taxes are set to rise, cuts to Medicare payments will occur, and emergency unemployment will lapse. With the economic security of so many Americans at stake, we cannot allow this to happen. Until an acceptable long-term solution is offered, it would be irresponsible to forego a short-term extension that enables small firms and the American people to move forward with our economic recovery.

Almost 12 million Americans currently rely on unemployment. Without action, nearly 2.5 million of them will lose their benefits in just two months. At a time when we should be providing them a leg-up, this Republican Congress has continually failed to provide middle-class Americans the assistance they require.

And, now, due to the Republican leadership blocking a two month extension, 160 million hardworking taxpayers are faced with a tax increase.

We have a modest, bipartisan solution before us. While it certainly does not address all these problems, it can provide some help at a time when it is desperately needed. The House should consider and pass this extension, immediately.

RETIREMENT OF DR. DAVID WENTZY AFTER MORE THAN 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 21, 2011

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, the book describes a well-known scene where the highest deity separates men based on their capacity to sympathize with those who are most in need in their community. In the Bible verse, Jesus admonished a group of men who refused to help him when he was hungry, poor, and sick. These same men asked in response, Jesus when were you hungry, poor, and sick for we would have helped in your time of need.

Jesus response, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize the unyielding service of Dr. David Wentzy, a man who has spent his entire life working for the least of those in our beloved community. Dr. Wentzy has amassed 42 years of service as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and as the Director of Northampton County Department of Social Services, where he helped to care for the county’s disadvantaged citizens.

Throughout his professional career, Dr. Wentzy has served on three North Carolina General Assembly Study Commissions and Councils, was active in the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and represented the state through the National Association of Counties, just to name a few. In addition, Dr. Wentzy was an active member of many fraternal, professional, military, and civic organizations. All of these demonstrate his exemplary leadership and commitment to the interests of Northampton County citizens.

Mr. Speaker, On December 31, 2011, Dr. Wentzy will retire as Director of the Northampton County Department of Social Services, opening the door for someone else to aspire to his impressive track record. But, although Dr. Wentzy is retiring from Social Services, I am certain he will continue to be a blessing to his community in an equally rewarding and selfless endeavor.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the First Congressional District of North Carolina, I thank Dr. David Wentzy for 42 years of public service to our state and country. It is greatly appreciated.
Wednesday, December 21, 2011

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action
The Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, December 23, 2011 for a pro forma session.

Committee Meetings
(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action
Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: There were no public bills or resolutions introduced today.
Additional Cosponsors:
Reports Filed:
A report was filed today as follows:

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Fitzpatrick to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Rev. Michael Wilker, Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Washington DC.

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no yea-and-nay votes, and there were no recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Committee Meetings
No hearings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2011
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate
No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House
No hearings are scheduled.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
9:30 a.m., Friday, December 23

Senate Chamber
Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Friday, December 23

House Chamber
Program for Friday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 10 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE
Butterfield, G.K., N.C., E2337, E2337
Velázquez, Nydia M., N.Y., E2337