

food in her stomach, she was able to take her medication and be in compliance and stay well so that she could stay out of the emergency room.

So we talked with these folks. Then we talked with people from the faith community—Jewish community, Christian community, and Catholic community—and all of them said that, look, you know, we do a lot of food aid. We're trying to make sure that folks have enough to eat; but if the government steps away from nutrition assistance, then that's just going to leave a bigger hole for us.

They talked about how their food shelves were already being used a lot, and how they already were struggling to meet the needs of the folks who came to them. So at the end of the day, they said, look, you know, we're not going to be able to step in where the government steps out.

And so at the end of the conversation, it was clear to me that, aside from statistics, aside from all the numbers, there is a human face on the food stamp program; and the cuts that have been proposed will be devastating.

Let me just tell you this, Mr. Speaker. If there was a program which said that it would improve children's math and reading scores, it would prevent diabetes, asthma and depression, it would contribute to healthy babies with fewer developmental problems, it would decrease health care costs and lower the poverty rate, would you support it?

That's the food stamp program. It needs to be supported.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at noon.

#### PRAYER

Pastor Ron Dunn, Revolution Church of God, Harrison, Michigan, offered the following prayer:

Father, You have given us this land for our heritage. We humbly ask that You will keep us mindful of Your favor and Your will.

Bless our land. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion and from every evil way. Turn us into one united people.

Give wisdom to our leaders who have been elected and entrusted with the authority to govern this great Nation. Let these leaders be obedient to Your law, and may Your glory shine throughout our Nation.

Bless this Nation as we put our trust in You in times of trouble and give You our thankfulness in times of prosperity.

Father, pour out Your Spirit on these men and women as they commit themselves to Your service and the service of our Nation.

We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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 gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MULLIN 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.

#### WELCOMING PASTOR RON DUNN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. CAMP. Today, I rise to welcome Pastor Ron Dunn to the House floor and to thank him for sharing his inspiring words this morning.

Pastor Dunn has served in a number of ministry roles for the last 15 years. Currently, he is the senior pastor to the Revolution Church of God in Harrison, Michigan, where he has encouraged the church to serve the community by offering counseling services and donating items such as clothing, diapers, and formula.

Before joining the ministry, Reverend Dunn was a member of the United States Army for 8 years and served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He and his wife, Stephanie, have three daughters—Chelsea, Abigail, and Sara—and they join us here today.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I would like to thank Pastor Dunn for offering this morning's prayer and for his service to God, his community, and our country.

God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

#### 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, June 13, 2013.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,  
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 June 13, 2013 at 9:32 a.m.:

That the Senate agrees to return the bill to the House H.R. 2217.

Appointment:  
Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### VIOLA MEEKINS

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. I rise today to recognize Viola Meekins and her lifetime of service to her community and to the State of Arkansas.

The life of Mrs. Meekins will be remembered in every corner of Arkansas County as well as in the halls of Upchurch and McRae High Schools in Prescott and by her classmates of Philander Smith College.

When Mrs. Meekins and her husband, George, first moved to Stuttgart in 1958, he became the principal of the former Holman School. Mrs. Meekins was the school's secretary as well as a teacher. After desegregation in 1971, the couple moved to Stuttgart High School. Even though Mrs. Meekins retired from teaching in 1989, her work in the community was just beginning. She spent countless hours volunteering at many places, including at the Holman Heritage Community Center. Upon the passing of her husband, George, Mrs. Meekins was appointed to fulfill his term on the quorum court and went on to serve for over 20 years.

In closing, I want to highlight the reason Mrs. Meekins sought a career as a teacher: to add value to the lives of the students and their families she taught. The life of Mrs. Meekins will live on, Mr. Speaker, and I hope that everyone who came in contact with Mrs. Meekins will honor her legacy by finding ways that they, too, can add value to the lives of those they come in contact with on a daily basis.