

House in which the Speaker said when he took the gavel here, the people's will will be reflected because they would bring things to the floor. They accused us of not doing that. That was their right to do so, but now I suggest they are following a policy that they have severely criticized and said was wrong. So if they were sincere then, we would simply ask the majority leader to bring the bill to the floor and see if he is right or if I am right; to see whether we have the votes or we don't. The American people deserve that vote because they are overwhelmingly for that vote, and then they can take their own view from there as to who they agree with and who they don't agree with.

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

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ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,  
MARCH 3, 2014

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARR). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

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CONGRATULATING DR. ABNER  
WOMACK

(Mrs. HARTZLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute).

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Abner Womack, professor emeritus at the University of Missouri, for receiving the Distinguished Service Award. This is the highest award awarded by the American Farm Bureau.

As a farm boy with a knack for numbers, he has used his expertise to build the internationally renowned Food and Agriculture Policy Research Institute that provides high-quality analysis for Congress and the USDA. This system of statistical models allows congressional Members and their staff to analyze the effects and tradeoffs of competing policies. Dr. Womack's academic integrity is evidenced in the strong academic, nonpartisan reputation that FAPRI enjoys.

However, Dr. Womack's reach far exceeds that of Capitol Hill. I want to commend him for his tireless effort to reach out to farmers across Missouri and around the world. His passion for agriculture and vast knowledge of statistical models, paired with his ability to effectively communicate complex ideas in a commonsense manner, have made him a priceless asset to all he encounters.

Again, I want to thank Dr. Womack for his lifelong efforts in supporting American agriculture, and recognize him for this achievement.

RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my fellow colleagues to allow an up-or-down vote on H.R. 1010, which would give at least 25 million Americans a pay raise. For many Americans, most of whom are women, who work 40 hours a week at \$7.25 an hour, they gross a mere \$290 a week. That comes out to \$15,000 per year, just barely above the Federal poverty guidelines.

In America, no one should have to work full time and raise their family in poverty. In Georgia alone, raising the minimum wage would give more than 500,000 hardworking people a raise. Most Americans support raising the minimum wage, but my Republican colleagues refuse to give it a vote. Obviously, many of them have never experienced life working at \$7.25 an hour.

The American people are calling for an economy that works for everyone—where a hard day's work earns a decent day's pay, and everyone has an opportunity to build a brighter future.

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SUPPORT LOCAL ACT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in the House as an original cosponsor of H.R. 4100, the Local Organization Cooperative Agreement and Facility Maintenance Act, or the LOCAL Act.

For the past several years, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has partnered with local nonprofit organizations to cooperatively manage and maintain recreational facilities at lakes and reservoirs on these Federal lands.

In my district, the Friends of Raystown Lake Group in Huntingdon County have been able to collect and retain user fees generated from the public's use of the lake, which they then reinvest to perform operations and maintenance on that site. Recently, an administrative ruling forced the Army Corps to terminate these agreements at facilities across the country. The Friends of Raystown should be commended for their volunteerism, not penalized by Washington's bureaucracy. The LOCAL Act will allow these and other agreements to remain in force.

I would encourage my colleagues to support the LOCAL Act to ensure the Army Corps can continue these cooperative agreements that are good for the community and good for taxpayers.

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CONSTITUTIONALITY OF  
EXECUTIVE ACTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, these are interesting times in America. For most of us who went to law school, we were taught that for an adversarial system of justice of law to work, there has to be active participation on both sides of an issue, of a person charged with a crime, on defense, or litigation over a law itself. So Chairman GOODLATTE from just across the river in Virginia called a hearing in the Judiciary Committee this week. We had another hearing about the constitutionality, or lack thereof, of actions by this administration, and it is very alarming.

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Professor Jonathan Turley, with whom I have disagreed on many policy issues, has a wonderful grasp of the Constitution; and he recognizes the dangers when an administration decides to pick and choose which laws will be enforced and goes further and issues executive orders, not like prior administrations that simply explain on most occasions or illuminate some law as to how they think it is to be interpreted, but to actually make law and executive orders. That is just unconscionable for somebody that took an oath to defend the Constitution.

I can't recall times that I have agreed with The LA Times before, but they had an editorial that indicates even The LA Times understands the danger of what is going on right now in this country with this administration.

We have an Attorney General who has been requested to produce documents lawfully, informally, refused to do so, been subpoenaed to produce information documents, has refused to do so unlawfully, to the point that the committee had a hearing and ultimately found the Attorney General of the United States in contempt of Congress, which came to this floor and, in a very unusual action found, the Attorney General, the highest law enforcement officer in this country, in contempt of Congress, basically in contempt of the Constitution.

This has far wider implications than most in America seem to grasp because, when the highest law enforcement officer in America refuses to comply with the law, holds himself out as being above any law, creates laws that he wants to defend—at least the administration creating laws that they want to defend or follow—and actually saying in this room—I just had the President of the United States say in this room: I am going to go around the Congress—if you don't do what I want, I am going to go around the Congress.

The ramifications for that are so staggering to anyone who has contemplated the founding of this country that it is beyond words. The Founders set up these checks and balances believing that, surely, there would be people in the judiciary—although they