

world still look to us for leadership and support. We are still what Lincoln called the last best hope of mankind. It is imperative that Congress now rise to the occasion.

IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, President Obama announced that the final framework for a nuclear deal with Iran had been reached.

While I am supportive of a strong deal that would prevent the nuclear armament of Iran and thereby easing tensions with our ally Israel, no deal is better than a bad deal.

One provision of particular concern has been the relief of congressional sanctions that were implemented years ago. By authorizing sanction relief, the Iranian Government will have billions of dollars at their disposal to use for the same secretive activities that we have grown accustomed to seeing them support.

As such, hundreds of Members on both sides of the aisle have expressed their opposition to a deal that does not appropriately address the shortfall of transparency or cooperation that Iran has demonstrated repeatedly. Merely threatening them with snapback sanctions does not go far enough to institute a level of accountability, nor does it prove to be a viable option once sanction relief has been in motion.

Mr. Speaker, as I have stated, I have joined with a significant majority of both Democrats and Republicans communicating expectations to the President on behalf of the American people for any negotiated deal with Iran. I am very concerned these expectations have not been met in this announced proposed deal.

The deal should never provide Iran a pathway to a bomb. This deal does not prevent that but, rather, prolongs the time until Iran develops nuclear weapons.

To achieve security and peace, this agreement must be long-lasting. Any deal that allows Iran to access conventional weapons in 5 years and ballistic missiles in 8 years is anything but long-term, anything but peaceful, anything but appropriate.

Relief of sanctions should be earned by full compliance, access, and transparency regarding the Iranian nuclear program. Sanction relief loaded upfront is unacceptable. This deal fails that requirement. Sanction relief will only provide a financial stimulus to fund the world's number one exporter of terrorism—Iran.

During this 60-day congressional review period, I encourage all of my colleagues and the American people to take a very detailed look at this agreement and determine whether it is a good deal for America.

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 14 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. DOLD) at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Dr. William Langford, Great Bridge Baptist Church, Chesapeake, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, as we stand here today, we cannot help but first be thankful for Your providential hand that has guided and blessed our country.

Father, I am also very thankful for the Members of this people's House, for their willingness to serve and to represent the citizens who have called upon them. And as they take on the issues of this day, I ask you, Lord, that You would first give them a spirit of humility to recognize our limitations, but to also recognize our need for You.

I pray, Lord, that You would give them a heart to seek Your infinite wisdom, rather than relying on our finite understanding.

I pray, Lord, that You would give them clarity as they discern Your direction, and then I pray that You would give them the courage to follow You and to lead us and protect us in these challenging and increasingly dangerous days.

Father, I pray that You would give us the assurance that whenever we stand resolved to seek Your wisdom to act on Your leadership, that You will indeed bless our tomorrows.

I pray all these things in the name of Jesus, who is eternally faithful and forever trustworthy.

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. LAMALFA. 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. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a

quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. KILMER 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 REVEREND DR.

WILLIAM LANGFORD

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

There was no objection.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor today's guest chaplain, Pastor Will Langford. Pastor Langford is the lead pastor of Great Bridge Baptist Church in Chesapeake, Virginia, where I am proud to say I have been a member for over 50 years.

Pastor Langford has served for almost 30 years at churches in Ohio, Kentucky, and Virginia. He received his doctor of ministry and master of divinity at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is also an author, speaker, and host of a local Christian teaching radio program, "Real Conviction."

Pastor Langford has dedicated his life to serving his congregation and the community in Chesapeake. I am personally grateful not just for the wisdom he shares from the pulpit, but for his day-to-day example of the impact one can have on his or her community, State, and nation when they personify the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Langford is joined today by his wife of nearly 30 years, Melissa; and they are the proud parents of two daughters, Brittany Nicole and Bethany Anne.

Please, join me in welcoming Pastor Langford.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the text of H.R. 2722, as proposed to be passed under suspension of the rules, be modified by the amendment that I have placed at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the modification.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 7, strike line 15 and all that follows through page 8, line 12.

Page 12, strike line 22 and all that follows through page 13, line 6, and insert the following:

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges which are received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, New York, New York, for the purpose of furthering breast cancer research funded by the Foundation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

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, July 15, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The 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 July 15, 2015 at 9:05 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1300.

That the Senate passed S. 756.

That the Senate passed S. 1482.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

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.

IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the nuclear deal President Obama has reached with Iran is dangerous and delusional. He says it will stop Iran from getting the bomb. Well, I would like him to tell us how it would do so when it puts us at the mercy of Iran.

This deal does not provide for any time, anywhere inspections. We would have to ask Iran permission, which they could deny.

The idea that Iran will not go nuclear with this deal defies history. Worse yet, it will undoubtedly start a nuclear arms race in the Middle East. I say that as a veteran of two wars.

This deal reflects Obama's disastrously naive foreign policy of appeasing our adversaries and stiffing our friends.

We have a duty to protect American citizens from harm, and that is why I will be voting against this deal.

EXPIRATION OF THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, we are 16 days away from the latest expiration of the highway trust fund. This is nothing new. Over the last 6 years, Congress has passed 33 stop-gap funding bills to extend transportation funding. Today we will vote on the 34th.

Congress has repeatedly failed to provide the long-term investments in transportation that we so badly need. Without serious long-term investments, we simply will not be able to compete in today's global economy. Europe now invests twice as much as we do in transportation. China invests four times as much.

Our crumbling infrastructure, rated a D-minus by the American Society of Engineers, is slowing our economic growth. State and local governments are being forced to cut back on their construction projects. Private sector companies are being forced to stop hiring workers and investing in capital.

It is time to provide American businesses and American workers with transportation funding certainty. It is past time to pass a long-term transportation bill that will grow our economy and create jobs.

TAXPAYERS' DOLLARS

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, the American people have an expectation that the hard-earned money that they pay in taxes will not be wasted or used fraudulently. However, we have seen far too many examples of the Federal Government squandering taxpayer dollars.

Take the IRS, for example. We have learned the earned income tax credit has an error rate of over 27 percent. That means taxpayer money is wasted to the tune of \$15 billion. Compare that to the private sector, where Visa maintains an error rate of 0.06 percent.

In another shocking revelation, it was even discovered that a single mailbox received 24,000 fraudulent tax returns, totaling \$46 million. One mailbox, Mr. Speaker.

In addition to fixing a broken Tax Code by making it simpler and fairer, Washington needs to also be good stewards of taxpayer money, making sure that taxpayer dollars are not wasted, are not misused, and that there is appropriate oversight over the IRS.

ENSURING CAREGIVERS' OPPORTUNITIES

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

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, older Americans want to spend their golden years living in dignity. For many, that means being able to stay in their own homes.

In concert with the White House Conference on Aging, this week I met with a group of home care workers that turned that wish into a reality. They work tirelessly to cook meals, help with therapies, make sure medication is taken properly, and help people live under their own roof.

The work of caregivers is so valuable, so I want to call on this Congress to actually value them. What does it say when the people who care about our most vulnerable—our parents and our grandparents—are so poorly compensated?

One of the caregivers I met with expressed that her pay was so low she wasn't building up enough in Social Security to retire, herself.

We need to work for better wages and for the notion that, when someone works overtime, they get paid overtime. We need to expand training and apprenticeship opportunities so those working hard in these demanding positions can move up.

Mr. Speaker, I have a grandmother who is now 105 years old. I want the caregivers taking care of her and her generation and future generations to know that we respect what they do, not just with words, but with policies and pay that supports them.

COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS

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

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss a simple solution to a straightforward problem. A constituent of mine came to me with this issue. He had created college funds for each of his grandchildren in a 529 college savings plan.

Some of his grandchildren decided not to go to college, while others went to college and graduated, but with student debt. While he wanted to use the leftover college savings to pay off those loans, which makes sense because the loans were the same expenses that the 529 plan money is intended for, he was not able to spend that money on the loans without being hit with both the capital gains taxes and an additional 10 percent penalty, the same as if he were using the money for some other purchase.

Today, I am introducing a bill to strike the additional penalty when the 529 college savings plan money is used to pay for student loans that were taken out for qualified educational expenses. In this age of rising college costs, there is no reason to penalize families for paying down student debt.

PROMOTING LITERACY

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)