

is no doubt that throughout his long career in Scouting Lew has done his best to do his duty to God and country, to obey the Scout law, and to help other people at all times.

This evening, Mr. Mohr is again going to be recognized by the local Scouting community for his decades of great work.

As a fellow Scouter and a friend, it is my honor to congratulate Lew on another well-deserved recognition and highlight a life of Scouting well lived.

□ 1300

LOOMING GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we are going to be in session next week. Normally, as you know, we have a colloquy on the schedule. There is no colloquy today because, essentially, there is no schedule. We don't know what is going to be proposed to fund government, which will shut down in approximately 14 days if this body does not act. Actually, it is less than 14 days. It is 6 legislative days, Mr. Speaker.

The Export-Import Bank has been allowed to essentially go out of business for new loans, and we are losing jobs, Mr. Speaker, but there is no schedule. The highway bill on which States, cities, counties, localities, and private sector relies for some degree of certainty, there is no schedule, Mr. Speaker.

I regret that we do not have a colloquy today. I regret that the Export-Import Bank was not moved yesterday, today, or is not on the schedule for next week.

Mr. Speaker, it is time that the majority party sets forth a schedule to make sure America succeeds.

CHANGE SENATE RULES

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, the American people are sick and tired of talk. They want action.

For 3 years now, Senate Democrats have blocked votes on bills important to all Americans. They have blindly supported the President's failed policies and have shielded him from having to defend his policies to the American people.

House Republicans have heard the American cry for help. We fought to repeal ObamaCare. We fought to stop the reckless Iranian nuclear agreement. Once again, we are fighting to defend the defenseless. We have passed budgets that will reduce our national debt, stop job-killing regulations, provide for our national defense, and get Americans working again.

Republicans control Congress. We have better solutions to the problems

that face our Nation. It is time for the President to go on record for his opposition to commonsense solutions that put America first. This can only happen if the Senate employs the nuclear option. It is time to change the Senate rules and force this President and the Senate to work for the American people instead of against them.

CALLING FOR BIPARTISAN BUDGET AGREEMENT

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

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue of great importance, the need to pass a budget bill and prevent a government shutdown.

I think many of us here on Capitol Hill heard all the buzz when former Daily Show host Jon Stewart came into town, but what I hope is not lost in all the excitement was his reason for coming.

He came to deliver a message to Congress to pass the reauthorization of the James Zadroga 9/11 First Responders Act, of which I am a proud cosponsor. It expires at the end of this month.

Instead of working to subsidize the health care of our courageous first responders, Congress is fixated on creating another manufactured crisis. Instead of providing a firefighter burned so badly while saving a victim of the attack of the Twin Towers or a police officer suffering from lung cancer because of exposure to toxic chemicals free health care and really thanking them for their heroic sacrifices, Congress again took no action.

I truly hope my colleagues recognize the gravity of the situation and come together to get back to conducting the business of this Nation.

NATIONAL POW-MIA DAY

(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, I rise today to recognize today as National POW-MIA Recognition Day, in honor of missing servicemen and -women across our Nation.

Sadly, more than 80,000 American soldiers ranging from World War II, the Korean war, and Vietnam are still unaccounted for. While we are thankful that several nations have worked to assist the United States in research and recovery efforts, there are still hurdles to clear when it comes to negotiations and operations. That is why I drafted H. Con. Res. 56, entitled "Keeping Our Promise to MIAs and POWs."

This bipartisan, noncontroversial resolution seeks to increase cooperation with nations that we enter into trade agreements in the research and recovery of our unaccounted soldiers.

With so many servicemen and -women still unaccounted for, we need

to do everything we can to bring them home with the honor and dignity that they deserve.

I encourage all my colleagues to sign on to H. Con. Res. 56.

ANTISHUTDOWN

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, unless we act soon, our government's functions will cease in 10 days. At the end of October, transportation and highway constructions will halt. Instead, Congress can do the right thing to create jobs for millions of Americans across this country.

This summer, the regular process for funding the government broke down because the majority couldn't figure out its stance on the Confederate flag. Today, partisan extremists are threatening another shutdown over women's health care that would be a self-inflicted hit to our economy.

We know that shutting down the government would be devastating for our economy. Standard & Poor's estimated that the 2013 shutdown cost our economy \$24 billion in economic activity; so instead of flirting with the government shutdown disaster, we should be investing in our future.

Twice this summer, Congress did the bare minimum by passing multiple, short-term extensions to the highway trust fund, mostly through accounting gimmicks. Across the board, from workers organizations to business groups, there is opposition to a government shutdown and support for long-term investments in infrastructure.

We should get to work, making it easier for Americans to grow their businesses and to create high-quality jobs instead of punishing our infrastructure, our military, and our economy with foolish partisanship.

WELCOME POPE FRANCIS

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, in just a matter of days, we will welcome Pope Francis to the Nation's Capital.

Pope Francis is the 266th Bishop of Rome, following a line of succession that goes all the way back to St. Peter 2,000 years ago. The sixteenth chapter of the Gospel of Matthew teaches that Jesus told Peter that he would be the rock on whom Jesus would build his church.

Now, for the first time in history, Peter's successor will address Congress.

Here is an interesting perspective: America remains a young Nation compared to the 2,000-year-old Catholic church. While we have had 44 different Presidents—President Obama is the 45th President because count Grover Cleveland as the 22nd and 24th President—just 16 of the church's 266 popes have governed the church since 1776.