

and Imy and have acted as guardians of another child.

A stable and permanent family is perhaps the most important thing in a child's developing life. Every day, we rely on people like Ellyn to unite families and improve lives. I applaud Ellyn for all of her hard work and for her fighting for families in the 13th District of Illinois.

ANTICS OF THE IRANIAN NAVY

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, this should come as no surprise, but the world's champion crybaby, the Islamic Republic of Iran, threw another hissy fit this week.

Their navy tried to hijack a British tanker with a Royal Navy escort. They admitted they were breaking international law because they demanded the ship drive itself into their waters to be boarded.

The Royal Navy frigate fired back with a salvo from a radio. They said: "Back off."

The Iranian babies put their boats at full speed, roaring back to Iran to cry on the Ayatollah's shoulder for their humiliation.

This has happened over and over. And I am very familiar with this region. I deployed there in the Navy for 6 months, from May of 1994 to November of 1994.

I was based on a small island called Masirah right off the shore of the United Arab Emirates. We would fly what is called a gulf transit 1,000 feet all around the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf to exercise our freedom of navigation.

This is not the first time these things have happened. The last attack happened right there where the baby is crying. Two months before that, off the map down there, four American tankers, at idle, sitting in dead water waiting to unload their cargo, were attacked by Iranian boats, damaged.

In the middle of the Persian Gulf, international airspace, right there near the Gulf of Oman, one of our airplanes was blown out of the sky by the Iranians.

That was an act of war.

Ours was an American military aircraft operating legally in international airspace over international waters.

The question is: Why are the insane Iranians becoming more insane? And that is because the Mullahs who have run their country now for 50 years know they are dying. And, like a dying animal, they are going to fight for their last breath of power.

They are dying because of America, the American energy revolution, started primarily and thriving in Texas and the Permian Basin.

Oil is their only source of money in the entire country of Iran. They have nothing else.

The Permian Basin, by itself, next year will produce more oil than every

country in the world except for Saudi Arabia.

We have many more shale plains across America: Barnett, Eagle Ford, Bakken, Marcellus—over and over and over.

□ 1045

They know we are putting them in the dumpsters of history. Uncle Sam is forcing the mullahs and the leaders of the military to learn new languages, new words to explain their demise, words like "good-bye," "ta-ta," "adieu," "adios," and "sayonara" to go with "khodahafez," which, in Farsi, means "good-bye."

I want to salute the people of Iran. The dark times are going to end quickly. You will be free from oppression from the leaders in your own country.

I would like to give a salute to the mullahs and the Iranian Navy and the military. Good-bye. Adios.

And that's just the way it is.

LET'S NOT RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE

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

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle announced they will soon bring to the floor the Raise the Wage Act, a bill to increase the Federal minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$15 an hour.

While supporters of this legislation have good intentions, the repercussions would spell disaster for our economy, for small businesses, and the very same low-wage workers who they intend to help. Nonpartisan estimates of the Raise the Wage Act expect it could cause up to 3.7 million people across the country to lose their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, that is almost as many people as in the entire State of Oklahoma, the entire State of Oklahoma unemployed.

Cities that have already imposed a \$15 minimum wage have been the first to see the negative effects of this initiative. Recently, the University of Washington conducted a study on the efficacy of Seattle's newly mandated \$15 minimum wage, and the results were very clear. Costs to low-wage workers in Seattle outweighed the benefits by 3-to-1, and the average low-wage worker lost \$125 a month.

While most of the discussion regarding the Federal minimum wage is focused on major metropolitan cities, what about the rural areas across the country where the cost of living is much lower? This bill would effectively eliminate small, rural businesses and skyrocket costs for goods and services.

Finally, let's look at who is currently making minimum wage in the U.S. Half are under the age of 25, and almost a quarter of them are teenagers. A \$15 minimum wage would threaten the job prospects of young folks who are looking to enter the

workforce for the first time, hoping to gain the skills needed to move ahead in a real career.

Over 80 percent of economists agree that a \$15 minimum wage would have a negative impact on youth employment.

Look, I cannot support a bill that is guaranteed to shutter business and lay off workers around the country. I hope that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will reconsider this attempt to backtrack on the economic success of recent years and, instead, support bipartisan policies that will help all workers get ahead.

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 10 o'clock and 49 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. PETERS) at noon.

PRAYER

Dr. George S. Dillard, III, Peachtree City Christian Church, Peachtree City, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Our Father, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the Great I Am, the maker of Heaven and Earth, let it be known today that You are God and that Your servants do all things at the command and leading of Your Word through Jesus the Christ, the son of the living God.

Hear me, Lord, hear me so that these people will know that You, Lord, are God and that You call them to turn their hearts to You.

Drive out the divisive ones, rebuke those who destroy the innocent, and remove those who delight in lies. Give wisdom, strength, and courage to those who seek unity, protect the innocent, and love the truth.

Lead us to be a people who seek freedom, liberty, and justice for all.

And let all of God's people say 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 Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LOEBSACK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows: