

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, from the Committee on Financial Services, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-84) on the resolution (H. Res. 251) directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit to the House of Representatives all information in his possession relating to specific communications with American International Group, Inc. (AIG), which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN ENGROSSMENT OF H.R. 1145, NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ACT OF 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk be authorized to make technical corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 1145, including corrections in spelling, punctuation, section and title numbering, cross-referencing, conforming amendments to the table of contents and short titles, and the insertion of appropriate headings.

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

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on the following motion to suspend the rules previously postponed.

NATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELORS APPRECIATION DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 247.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 247.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WATER RESOURCES IN AMERICA

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise to add my support to H.R. 1145, the bill that we just

discussed on the floor of the House, that requires the President to establish an agency that addresses the question of the increasing lack of water resources in the United States of America. In the recognition of Earth Day that occurred yesterday, where we are looking to green our country and green this Earth, we also must ensure that we have the water that is necessary for this Nation.

I will introduce a water bill that will also take into consideration the lack of water around the world. I am also very much appreciative of the language in the bill that looks at questions of areas that have had disasters, such as my area in Houston, and homes that have suffered from flooding, such as the White Oak area in Houston.

This is a good step. We need an expanded water bill to help all of the world. And certainly we need to pay tribute to the concept of greening this Earth and protecting this Earth—its water resources and its green resources—to make this a better place for all of us to live.

CONGRESS MUST COME TOGETHER

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

Mr. CAO. Madam Speaker, I come before the House today to express the views of a freshman Congressman whose knowledge and experience of the workings of Capitol Hill have spanned a little more than 3 months.

While I am greatly honored to be a Member of this governing body and cherish the friendship and support I have received from my colleagues, I would like to use this forum to express a concern: how we operate as a governing body.

Aristotle said, "Virtue is the mean between two extremes." This definition of virtuous state of character was appropriate over 2,000 years ago, and it continues to be true today.

Virtuous character, properly exercised, is to react to circumstances in the appropriate way and to the appropriate degree. I believe that we, as Members of Congress, must govern from a political spectrum that resonates the mean, and not the two extremes.

What are these two extremes? Left-wing liberalism, whose governing stance simply focuses on the immediate, with little attention to moral implications and burdens on future generations, and right-wing conservatism, whose rhetoric seeks to inflame rather than inform.

The future of America is too important for this body to be embattled and impeded by radical ideologies and political maneuvering.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FUDGE). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to address the House for 1 minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Texas is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I would yield my minute to my friend from Louisiana.

Mr. CAO. Thank you very much.

We must remember who we represent as Members of Congress—the average American whose language does not reflect the extremes, but who simply asks, how will I pay my bills? How can I raise my children to be successful and moral citizens? And how can I worship and express freely my religious faith?

Our public policy today, depending on who is in power, tends to reflect a limited political agenda, which gets the country in trouble in one manner or another. While history is our mentor, we must look at the state of our Nation today and address our shared problems through the cumulative knowledge we have acquired as we continue to progress and evolve as a Nation.

Neither liberals nor conservatives can relive their past. We, as a governing body, must use all of our knowledge and tools that we have to address the problems of a dynamic and evolving national or global society in the appropriate way and to the appropriate degree. This, of course, requires a delicate balancing act where all Members of Congress are invited to the discussion table—and not as liberals or conservatives, but as problem solvers there to address the human needs of the average American.

NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE

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

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in observance of National Day of Silence.

Last Friday, April 17, marked the 13th annual National Day of Silence, a day where students throughout the country follow in the footsteps of the great civil rights advocates like Mahatma Gandhi and spend the day in civil disobedience. These students remain silent for one day to bring attention to and highlight the discrimination some of their peers endure by speaking out about sexual orientation and their personal gender identity.

When asked to explain why they will participate in a National Day of Silence, some of the young people in my district said, "We stand up and stand out by not speaking out on that day."

The Day of Silence is a day to acknowledge the roads already traveled and the ones soon to be traveled to show how far we have come and how much further we have to go. The Day of Silence brings attention to the oppression that queer youth face from their peers and their classroom, and is a reminder that we still have much work to do.

I commend all my constituents who observe the Day of Silence. Though the nationally observed Day of Silence has passed this year, I would ask my colleagues to take a moment of silence