

“No law varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives shall take effect until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.”

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, with apology to those few Members who were waiting to read, we have now completed the first reading aloud of the United States Constitution.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, our expectation was that the new Republican majority would read the Constitution as written and its subsequent amendments. There is a broad body of law and interpretation that has developed from 1787 until the adoption of the last Amendment in 1992 that has turned our Constitution into a living document, paid for by the blood, sweat and tears of millions of Americans from the Revolutionary War, through the Civil War to even our current conflicts.

The new Republican majority and their redacted Constitutional reading gives little deference to the long history of improving the Constitution and only seeks an interpretation of our Constitution based on the now, not the historic, broad body of law and struggle that it has taken to get there. It leaves out the need to continue to refine the Constitution so that we have a more perfect union.

The 10th Amendment remains the center of conservative ideology. It reads, “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”

The 112th Congress’ Republican majority is building its agenda around the 10th Amendment. It is determined to limit the scope of Congress’ activity to legislation “reserved” to the United States. Then, all other rights are in the purview of the states. Under this historic logic, slavery was a state right protected by the Constitution and the 10th Amendment. But slavery by definition is not a human right, and therefore states rights cannot be human rights. That is why for the last five Congresses, I’ve introduced a series of Constitutional amendments that would improve the document for all Americans by guaranteeing essential rights.

Currently, the right to vote is a state right—subject to local interpretations of who should vote and how. That results in thousands of different systems, all with different rules and different regulations. It means education is a state right, which means a child’s likelihood of success is based on where he or she is born and the quality of schools that happen to be there. It means health care is a right, and God help you if your state, county or city cannot provide access to high quality care.

I will soon reintroduce the following amendments, in the hopes of creating a more perfect union:

H.J. Res. 28—Guaranteeing the right to vote to all Americans

H.J. Res. 29—Guaranteeing the right to an education of equal high quality

H.J. Res. 30—Guaranteeing the right to health care of equal high quality

H.J. Res. 31—Guaranteeing the right to equality and to reproductive rights to women

H.J. Res. 32—Guaranteeing the right to high quality housing

H.J. Res. 33—Guaranteeing the right to a clean and safe environment

H.J. Res. 34—Guaranteeing progressive taxation

H.J. Res. 35—Guaranteeing the right to full employment and balanced growth

H.J. Res. 36—Abolishing the electoral college, and providing direct election of the President and Vice President

I hope my Republican and Democratic colleagues will join me in converting a reverence for the Constitution into a movement to improve it on behalf of all Americans.

#### APPOINTMENT—PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 11 of rule X and clause 11 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair announces the Speaker’s appointment of the following Member of the House to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:

Mr. ROGERS, Michigan, Chairman.

#### RESOLUTION TO CUT CONGRESS’ BUDGET

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 22) reducing the amount authorized for salaries and expenses of Member, committee, and leadership offices in 2011 and 2012.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 22

*Resolved,*

#### SECTION 1. REDUCTION IN MEMBERS’ REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCE.

(a) ALLOWANCES ADOPTED IN 2011 AND 2012.—The amount of any Members’ Representational Allowance established in accordance with section 101 of the House of Representatives Administrative Reform Technical Corrections Act (2 U.S.C. 57b) for 2011 or 2012 may not exceed 95 percent of the amount of the Allowance so established for 2010.

(b) INTERIM REDUCTION PENDING ADOPTION OF NEW ALLOWANCE.—Until a Members’ Representational Allowance is established in accordance with section 101 of the House of Representatives Administrative Reform Technical Corrections Act (2 U.S.C. 57b) for 2011, the amount of such Allowance, as in effect on the date of the adoption of this resolution, is reduced by 5 percent.

#### SEC. 2. REDUCTION IN AMOUNT AUTHORIZED FOR SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES IN 2011 AND 2012.

(a) REDUCTION.—The head of any House leadership office may not authorize the disbursement of any amounts appropriated for salaries and expenses of such office during calendar year 2011 or fiscal year 2012 at a rate exceeding 95 percent of the rate provided for such salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2010.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, a “House leadership office” is any office whose salaries and expenses were appropriated for fiscal year 2010 under the heading “House leadership offices” in the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2010.

#### SEC. 3. REDUCTION IN AMOUNT AUTHORIZED FOR EXPENSES OF COMMITTEES IN 2011 AND 2012.

(a) PRIMARY EXPENSE RESOLUTIONS.—The aggregate amount authorized for expenses of

committees of the House of Representatives for 2011 and 2012 under primary expense resolutions adopted by the House under clause 6 of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives may not exceed 95 percent of the aggregate amount provided for expenses of committees under such resolutions for 2009 and 2010.

(b) INTERIM FUNDING PENDING ADOPTION OF PRIMARY EXPENSE RESOLUTIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (c) of clause 7 of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, each committee described in paragraph (a) of such clause shall be entitled for each month during the period specified in paragraph (a) of such clause to 95 percent of the amount otherwise determined under paragraph (c) of such clause.

#### SEC. 4. REDUCTION IN AMOUNT AUTHORIZED FOR SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS IN 2011 AND 2012.

The chair of the Committee on Appropriations may not authorize the disbursement of any amounts appropriated for salaries and expenses of the Committee during fiscal year 2011 or fiscal year 2012 at a rate exceeding 91 percent of the rate provided for such salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2010.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(b) of House Resolution 5, the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 1 hour.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today is a momentous day. We are all here together as Members of a new Congress and, more importantly, at the cusp of a new era in America’s political life. I find it humbling and most appropriate that while yesterday we were ceremonially sworn in in this historic House Chamber and appropriately voted on a transparency-enhancing rules package, today we began our proceedings with a reading of the United States Constitution. The Constitution not only establishes our polity and our framework of government, it enshrines as our fundamental law the proper role of government.

Mr. Speaker, as we promised in our Pledge to America, today’s reading was an affirmation of our commitment to return this government back to its proper role—a smaller, less costly, more accountable one.

Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us, introduced by my colleague from Oregon, is extremely important to today’s affirmation. And it is no accident that this is our first piece of legislative business in this the 112th Congress.

This legislation is significant because, along with our other activities here on the House floor this week, this bill committing ourselves to a more responsible and efficient stewardship of