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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, December 23, 2011, at 9:30 a.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2011

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 21, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Michael Wilker, Lutheran Church of the Reformation, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, You give us light in the darkness. We praise You for the galaxies, stars, planets, and Moon that shine in the night. We bless You for lamps and candles that illumine our communities. We thank You for the fires that warm our homes and energize our work.

We repent for the ways we pollute the beauty of the night, the ways we extinguish the light of companionship, the ways we fail to share Your warmth.

Enlighten our darkness. Be the dayspring for those suffering from addiction and illness. Be the bright morning star for those who are grieving. Be the Sun of justice for those living under oppression and in poverty. Be

the cleansing fire for those who survive violence and warfare.

Traveling, send us with Your light to share with friends and strangers. Welcoming, light our gatherings with Your love. Searching for justice and peace, light our way.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 493, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. VAN HOLLEN 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.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(b) of House Resolution 493, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Friday, December 23, 2011.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 2 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until Friday, December 23, 2011, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4366. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" final rule — Investment of Customer Funds and Funds Held in an Account for Foreign Futures and Foreign Options Transactions (RIN: 3038-AC79) received December 19, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4367. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Funding and Fiscal Affairs, Loan Policies and Operations, and Funding Operations; Liquidity and Funding (RIN: 3052-AC54) received December 7, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4368. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter regarding the submission of the report on DoD purchases from foreign entities; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4369. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting written notification of the determination that a public health emergency exists and has existed in the State of Missouri since May 22, 2011, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 247d(a) Public Law 107-188, section 144(a); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4370. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31,

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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