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No. 122

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
September 17, 2013.

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

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

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

### NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HOLDING) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Truck Driver Appreciation Week.

Professional truck drivers in America deliver goods safely and on time to our hospitals, schools, and local grocers each day and are vital to both our local and our national economy.

Mr. Speaker, last week, I recently sat down with a number of my North Caro-

lina truck drivers and learned that their industry, like so many others in America, is facing a host of new rules and regulations by the Federal Government that is impacting their ability to retain current drivers and hire new ones.

In North Carolina right now, Mr. Speaker, there is a shortage of up to 15,000 truck drivers. These are good-paying jobs that can average a salary of \$50,000 and include benefits. In these difficult economic times, the Federal Government must be promoting policies that encourage companies to go out and hire that additional worker. Trucking is a great example of such an industry.

Mr. Speaker, professional truck drivers have a vested interest in keeping our roads safe not only for their businesses but for everyone else that shares the highway.

Let's commit, Mr. Speaker, to finding sensible solutions that reduce burdensome regulations and keep our roads safe.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO) at 2 p.m.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Lord God of Heaven and Earth, thank You for giving us another day.

As this assembly gathers after a long weekend at home, we note the observance of Constitution Day, when our Nation's founding document was signed at the Constitutional Convention in 1787.

Grant a deepening knowledge of, and appreciation for, our Constitution to all Americans but especially to the Members of the people's House, who have sworn an oath to defend it.

May they have the freedom to realize that their responsibility is to the Nation and its welfare as well as to their own constituents. Give them the wisdom to discern the greater good when those allegiances might seem to conflict.

May all that is done today be for Your greater honor and glory.

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 the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SABLAN 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.

### OBAMACARE MANDATE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, given President Obama's reflexive opposition to

□ 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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