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ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1334

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.—Mr. Owens (to rank immediately after Mr. Murphy of New York).

(2) COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.—Mr. Patrick Murphy of Pennsylvania.

(3) COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.—Mr. Garamendi (to rank immediately after Mr. Owens), Mr. Boswell (to rank immediately after Mr. Garamendi), Mr. Johnson of Georgia (to rank immediately after Mr. Boren).

(4) COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—Mr. Deutch (to rank immediately after Mr. McMahon).

(5) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.—Mr. Owens (to rank immediately after Ms. Titus).

(6) COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.—Mr. Deutch (to rank immediately after Ms. Chu), Mr. Polis.

(7) COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES.—Mr. Luján (to rank immediately after Mr. Heinrich).

(8) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.—Mr. Garamendi (to rank immediately after Mr. Peters).

(9) COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—Mr. Johnson of Georgia.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. CHU). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland, the majority leader, for the purposes of announcing next week's schedule.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the Republican whip for yielding.

On Tuesday, the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business, with votes postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for legislative business. On Friday, no votes are expected.

We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. The complete list of suspension bills will be announced by the close of business tomorrow. In addition, we will consider

H.R. 5116, the America COMPETES Act.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman. Madam Speaker, I noticed that the gentleman from Maryland, the majority leader, did not mention the budget or the Afghan-Iraq supplemental for next week's schedule. And I know that in our last week's colloquy the majority leader, the gentleman from Maryland, stated that he would consider these two items as soon as possible. So I would ask the gentleman if he has an update about floor consideration for either the budget resolution or the supplemental bill for Afghanistan and Iraq.

Mr. HOYER. We are still working on the budget. I will hopefully bring that forward when it is ready, obviously when the Budget Committee considers it. As it relates to the Afghan-Pakistan supplemental, the President requested, as you know, approximately \$33 billion in his budget at the beginning of the year. The Defense Department says that the money that they have will be depleted sometime this summer. It's important, obviously, therefore, that we move soon. And I hope to do that.

I would hope that when we move this bill forward that we will see bipartisan support for it, obviously to support our troops in harm's way, carrying out a policy that I know, as the gentleman has observed before, the Republican whip himself and others have indicated their support of the President's policy in Afghanistan. This money for Afghanistan and Pakistan will fund those efforts. And I am hopeful when we do bring it forward that we will have bipartisan support for that piece of legislation.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

Just to clarify, Madam Speaker, does the gentleman expect either of these items to come to the floor prior to the Memorial Day recess?

Mr. HOYER. I am hopeful that that will be the case, yes.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

I would ask the gentleman also, Madam Speaker, when does he expect the tax extender bill to come to the floor? I know Chairman LEVIN has alluded to it coming to the floor any time within the next 2 weeks. I would further ask the gentleman, Madam Speaker, does he expect that to be a 1- or a 2-year extension?

Mr. HOYER. The committee has not acted, so I can't answer the second question per se on the 1 or 2 years. I will tell the gentleman that it is still my expectation, as Chairman LEVIN said, that that bill, the jobs bill with the extenders in it, will come forward within the next 2 weeks.

Chairman BAUCUS and Chairman LEVIN are discussing that bill. I am hopeful that they will reach agreement and can reach agreement on a bipartisan basis in the House and in the Senate. We are working toward that end. We believe this will be an important bill for business, an important bill for job growth, and an important bill to

extend some of those items that, as the gentleman knows, some of them will expire in terms of authorization either by the end of this month or by June 2.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman for that, and would inquire further, Madam Speaker, from the gentleman, I don't know if I am asking, Madam Speaker, whether it is his sense or preference about the length of the extension and whether we can expect or he would expect there to be a 1- or 2-year extension.

Mr. HOYER. I would prefer that perhaps we do it for a longer period of time than 1 year. Two years would be acceptable. However, the problem, of course, is paying for things. As the gentleman knows, when these bills were considered, one of the things that the minority did with their MTR was to include more spending in and strike the pay-fors, which exacerbated the bill to the tune of about \$100 billion. So I think the committee is dealing with what they can pay for.

There will be some things, obviously, that we have accepted as emergencies caused by the severe economic downturn. But I think the length of time will probably be dictated by the issue of how we pay for things.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman.

I would reiterate, Madam Speaker, to the gentleman that Republicans stand ready to work with him in terms of trying to live up to the expectations that families across this country are having to live up to, which is to work in a fiscally responsible manner on a budget blueprint for the year, and am hopeful that Congress can deliver on that prior to the Memorial Day break.

With nothing further, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

HOOR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow, and further when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2010, for morning-hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

A NEW INTERNATIONAL FISCAL CONSERVATISM

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today's volatility in the stock market teaches us two lessons: first, the United States, our Treasury Secretary, and our President must advance a new International Economic Stabilization plan based on tremendous cuts in European government spending. Over 60 percent of Greece's GDP is in the public sector. With debts rising to 100 percent of national income, their ability to repay

their debts was inevitably going to collapse.

Spain, Portugal, and Italy may be next. Their debts total trillions, not hundreds of millions. Our U.S. financial system and our stock market depends on what I would call a new international fiscal conservatism that cuts government spending and deficit financing.

Today also teaches us another lesson. The very debts that crippled Europe and shook our stock market are coming to America, fueled by the irresponsible spending of this Congress. We need to cut Federal spending now to reassure markets and assure that America's children will never have to ask this question: "Who will bail out America?"

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROTECTION ACT

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I introduced a bill to ensure that scarce Federal resources provided for the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program are spent to provide nutritious meals to our children.

Every day more than 30 million students receive meals through these programs. In this recession, more and more families are relying on schools to feed their children at least one healthy meal every school day. At the same time, these programs are facing increased costs.

Unfortunately, some school districts overcharge for the administrative costs associated with implementing these important nutrition programs. This means less money to feed children. That's why I introduced the National School Lunch Protection Act of 2010, to ensure that Federal money for school meals actually goes towards feeding our needy children.

Specifically, this bill requires a Federal study to see what school districts are charging the Federal Government to implement these programs. Armed with this information, the Secretary will implement regulations to protect these important nutrition programs. Once passed, this bill will prevent government waste and will help to feed more hungry children.

GULF OIL SPILL

(Mr. TURNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, as we turn on the news networks and we listen about the oil spill in the Gulf, the American people want to know, how could this happen? As Americans read the news about this particular oil platform having had problems over several years, and how equipment meant to prevent an oil spill malfunctioned,

they want to know where was the enforcement of safety regulations to prevent this disaster?

The Obama administration and congressional Democrats have called for an energy policy that includes more drilling. Americans are concerned, however, that if the administration can't manage this current crisis, how can we manage even more drilling?

I agree with most Americans that we need an "all of the above" energy plan that will reduce our dependence on foreign oil. However, the American people expect answers from this administration. How did this happen? How should this have been prevented? Why was there a delay in the administration providing a response to this disaster? And what will the administration do now? Our Nation awaits these answers.

□ 1600

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

THE TIMES SQUARE BOMBER: FIGHTING THEM HERE INSTEAD OF THERE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, every American was troubled to learn about the attempted terrorist bombing in Times Square last weekend, but we should all be heartened and we should all be proud of the swift action by law enforcement authorities to apprehend the suspect. By all accounts, the system worked seamlessly. New York City Police worked in tandem with the FBI, Customs and Border Patrol, the Department of Homeland Security, and other agencies, and the man was in custody by Monday. He was read his Miranda rights and continues to cooperate. And there is reason to believe he can provide valuable intelligence that will allow us to detain other terrorists. Everything by the books. No extralegal coercion. Rule of law and the Constitution upheld. This is the way to combat terrorism, Madam Speaker.

You'll recall that the notion of counterterrorism as primarily a law enforcement operation has often been met by ridicule and by bluster on the other side of the aisle. This isn't police work, they've said. This is war. Well, we've now had 8½ years of war, and in addition to costing us thousands of American lives and hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars, it has not made terrorism go away. If anything, it has animated and emboldened the people who want to harm America. And as people have watched their home countries invaded and their communities

destroyed at the hands of the U.S. military, they've become prime recruits for terrorist networks.

The bottom line is that our current strategy isn't an antiterrorism strategy at all. By its very nature, it's spawning more terrorists than it's killing or detaining.

What if we took just a fraction of our war budgets and used it to make our domestic counterterrorism infrastructure that much stronger? And what if we took another fraction and launched a smart security strategy that emphasized peaceful, civilian, humanitarian outreach instead of military occupation? Because contrary, Madam Speaker, to the assessment of our previous President, it appears that "fighting them here" is exactly the way to go. "Fighting them there," on the other hand, leads to an endless cycle of violence, recrimination, and hatred.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who played a role in the successful arrest of the Times Square bomber. Now let's give them even more tools, resources, and support. Let's bring the troops home and make the work of our talented law enforcement personnel the focal point of our struggle against terrorism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MARKEY of Colorado). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IS CONSTITUTIONAL WHETHER FED- ERAL JUDGES LIKE IT OR NOT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Today is the National Day of Prayer. It's the day of the year that is proclaimed that we honor how prayer and how religion has affected our culture as a Nation. Every day, in this very House, we start with a prayer. Down the hallway in the United States Senate, every day, the U.S. Senate starts with a prayer. And then we have the Pledge of Allegiance. The Supreme Court has ruled that it is constitutional for us, the Senate, and all State legislatures, to start every day with a prayer. And so it is throughout the country.

We have the National Day of Prayer today, but it has a long history of establishment here in the United States, where we recognize this very important day. Many Congresses and Presidents have proclaimed days of prayer and fasting throughout our Nation's history. From Washington all the way to Madison and all the way through World War II, Presidents set aside days of national prayer.

In 1952, 58 years ago, a bill proclaiming an annual National Day of