

type of medication. A misspelled drug name, illegible handwriting, or if the physician is not aware of a patient's other prescriptions, these can all lead to problems.

Yesterday, the House passed the Health Information Technology Promotion Act to help doctors and hospitals work together to eliminate drug errors. Computerized prescriptions instantaneously give physicians vital information and double-check all prescriptions to put patient safety first.

To learn more about eliminating preventable medication errors, or other ways we can save lives and save money in health care, I would urge my colleagues to visit my Web site at [murphy.house.gov](http://murphy.house.gov).

#### DO-LESS-THAN-DO-NOTHING CONGRESS LEAVES AGAIN WITHOUT ADDRESSING AMERICA'S PRIORITIES

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as the Republicans prepare to leave on a 5-week vacation, this Congress is best described as the "do-less-than-do-nothing Congress."

Despite the fact that the minimum wage has not been increased in 9 years, House Republicans refuse to allow a clean vote on the minimum wage, which will prevent 6 million Americans from receiving a much needed pay raise. If Republicans were really interested in raising the minimum wage, they wouldn't attach it to bills they know will never be signed into law.

And despite the fact that Republicans have been critical of border security, they continue to refuse to come to the negotiating table so that we can pass a comprehensive immigration and border security bill into law this year.

And despite the fact that gas prices are once again at record highs, House Republicans have yet to pass a tough price gouging bill into law, and refuse to join us in repealing \$20 billion in tax breaks and subsidies to their friends in Big Oil.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have every reason to be disgusted with this House. It is time we take America in a new direction. The American people want a Congress that works for them.

#### NATIONAL MOTTO: IN GOD WE TRUST

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, this House has much tradition and history. We start each day every day with a prayer to the Almighty, the Pledge, and the flag is displayed in the center of this House. Above that flag, appropriately so, is the phrase, "In God We Trust."

Fifty years ago this month, President Eisenhower signed legislation de-

claring this to be our national motto. Our great leaders believed in this self-evident truth.

Benjamin Franklin said at the Constitutional Convention, "The longer I live, the more convinced I see this truth, God governs the affairs of men, and if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?"

President George Washington, in his first inaugural address said: "It would be improper to omit in this first official act, my fervent supplications to the Almighty Being who rules this universe, who presides in the councils of nations."

And finally, Thomas Jefferson said, "Our liberties are the gift of God."

Mr. Speaker, we must and shall preserve, believe and uphold America's motto, "In God We Trust."

And that's just the way it is.

#### MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

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

Ms. SOLIS. Good morning, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to talk about the Republican leadership and the fact that they are ignoring the needs of millions of Americans who right now are making minimum wage. They haven't seen an increase in over 10 years.

They are holding the pay raise for American workers hostage by adding partisan poison pills that will damage and ruin a clean minimum-wage bill that the Democrats support.

Americans deserve a straight up-or-down vote on increasing the minimum wage for working families, most of whom are women, single head of household with children.

Mr. Speaker, our constituents know that you can't fool them. They know that the Republicans' attempt to pass a minimum-wage bill that includes harmful, unrelated legislation is just not going to pass this House.

Come November, Democrats are going to stand up, and they are going to fight with us, and we are going to take back this House.

I urge all my colleagues to reject the proposed Republican poison bills and allow a clean vote up or down on the minimum-wage bill.

□ 1015

#### COMMENDING THE U.S. COAST GUARD

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 1-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, it is appropriate that we remember the valiant service of the U.S. Coast Guard. During our Nation's most destructive

natural disaster, these men and women went above and beyond the call of duty.

The sheer magnitude of the Guard's response was astounding. One-third of its air fleet was deployed in the Gulf region. Six years of search-and-rescue operations were completed in 1 week. More than 33,520 lives were saved.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note that these servicemembers were not unaffected bystanders. Sixty-nine percent of Coast Guard members were themselves victims of the hurricane; yet they put their own distress aside to save those in need. These men and women are truly American heroes, despite negative, false reporting by the drive-by media.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

#### ATTACKING OIL COMPANY PROFITS

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Exxon reported its second-highest quarterly profit ever. Net income, \$10 billion, up 36 percent. But they are not the only ones raking in the cash. Shell reported a 40-percent increase in profit. BP, a 30-percent increase. ConocoPhillips, a 65-percent increase in profit.

And whom does this oil industry have to thank? Lee Raymond and his outsized \$400 million retirement package?

No. The oil companies have the Republican Congress to thank for their huge bank accounts. In 2005, the oil and gas companies spent \$86 million lobbying the United States Congress, and they received \$14.5 billion in taxpayer-funded handouts. You cannot get that type of return on Wall Street or in Vegas. \$86 million for lobbying, \$14.5 billion in corporate welfare. So Americans are paying twice, once when they fill up their tanks, and then again on April 15.

We must stop handing out welfare checks to Big Oil. It is high time big oil companies got off the taxpayer dole.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for a change. And it is time for a new direction.

#### MEDICARE PHYSICIAN PAYMENT HEARING

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, maybe it is because I am also a physician, but one of the questions I get most frequently at town hall meetings or just after the town hall meeting is: How come I turned 65 and I have got to change doctors?

The reason, Mr. Speaker, is because we are relying on a formula, a 10-year-old formula, a failed formula that does not adequately reimburse physicians'

offices for what it costs them to deliver the care to our Medicare patients.

To that end, a bill has been introduced, H.R. 5866, and I would encourage other Members to spend some time over the August break to look at this bill. Yes, it is a little long. Yes, it is a little complex. But it is important work. It ensures that physicians receive full and fair payment for their services based on the cost of the inputs that costs them to run their practice. It creates quality performance measures that allows patients to be informed consumers. It builds on the quality improvement that we have done in this Congress and that private medicine has done throughout the country for the last decade. And, finally, it seeks to find reasonable methods of paying for these benefits within the bill.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come to revise this failed formula that serves no one good. We need to provide physicians with regular, stable, predictable updates to the cost of their practices.

#### CREDIT UNION REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS ACT

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

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, we all recognize the importance of the financial services industry, including both banks and credit unions, to our economy. I support and applaud the steps they have taken toward better services and improved products, but I think there is some need for some changes.

That is why I have introduced a bill dealing with credit cards and am cosponsoring H.R. 2317, to update the regulation of credit unions. My support for credit unions does not reflect hostility to banks because I do not think credit unions represent a threat to the continued success of banks.

In 2005, bank profits reached a record level. Banks have a 94 percent share of the financial services industry, and the net growth in bank assets in 2005 was nearly as much as the combined total assets of all credit unions in the country. So I do not think modest changes that are in H.R. 2317 represent a real threat to the continued success of the banking industry.

When we return in September, we should have an opportunity to consider both H.R. 2317 and my bill, H.R. 5383, the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility, and Disclosure Act.

#### HOUSE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly reflect upon the accomplishments of this Congress. As we head into the August district work pe-

riod, let us look back on all we have achieved for the American people.

Under Republican leadership this House has passed legislation to bolster our economy and prevent a tax increase on millions of Americans, including small business owners, seniors, and families.

We have worked to pass a fiscally responsible budget. We have funded the War on Terror, giving our servicemen and women the tools and support they need to take the fight to the enemy. Equally important, we have worked to secure this homeland.

We have passed legislation helping American families. We got tough on child exploitation over the Internet and voted to increase funding and resources to fight methamphetamine in all our communities. We have passed legislation to protect our Pledge of Allegiance, to curb illegal Internet gambling, and to protect our right to display the American flag.

Mr. Speaker, the list goes on and on. This Congress is working for the American people, and I ask that you join me in praising all that we have accomplished.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 21 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1705

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) at 5 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my remarks.

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

There was no objection.

#### HONORING DAN GETZ

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, last night we had a terrible tragedy occur in my office. My assistant for foreign policy, Dan Getz, who was age 37, dropped dead of a heart attack.

Dan was an outstanding young man. He worked very, very hard in dealing with foreign policy issues, and he was a real credit to everybody that works here in the House.

One of the things that Members and the people of the country don't realize sometimes is how hard the people behind the scenes work. The staff people here and the staff on the committees work very, very hard day and night to make sure we are ready for debate on the floor of the House and our committee meetings. And Dan was one of the people that I thought did exemplary work. He worked so hard for us.

In fact, this week we had two hearings, and he didn't have assistants to help him, and he did it all by himself. And I feel a little guilty that he had to work so hard. So we were going to give him today off so that he could recuperate from all the hard work.

He went home last night to his beautiful wife, Lydia, and his two daughters, Nova and Sonia, who are both very, very young. I think they are very young children. And evidently he was resting and he keeled over with a heart attack; and before the rescue team could get there, he passed away.

So I would just like to say to his wife and his children how sorry we are. And I want to make this commitment to them, that if there is anything they need, I and my staff will do everything we can to make sure that they are taken care of, and that means financially as well.

And we will miss you, Dan. And the Good Lord willing, we will see you in heaven.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1810

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) at 6 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.

#### WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 958 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 958

*Resolved*, That the requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported on the legislative day of July 28, 2006, providing for consideration or disposition of any of the following measures: