

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information. We understand it has to be tentative, and we understand that the leader cannot anticipate exactly what will and will not pass within certain time frames. We appreciate sort of the ballpark estimate of what would be available for time if we need it.

You have not noted, but there has been a lot of talk about tax-related legislation and speculation as to whether or not we will consider any tax or trade-related legislation, for example, the tax extenders, prior to leaving for the elections. It is not on your schedule. Do you have any expectation that we would be considering prior to the election, not after the election but prior to, any tax legislation, extenders or otherwise?

Mr. BOEHNER. I do not.

Mr. HOYER. You do not. Thank you.

There is noted on the calendar a bill which is the Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act. Would it be your expectation there would be any other legislation prior to the election dealing with that subject, abortion?

Mr. BOEHNER. I am not sure that there is any definitive answer on that. We do have this interstate notification bill up next week. There was some consideration to the unborn child pain bill that some Members have been hoping to get up. At this point I do not expect to have it on the floor next week. But at this point that is as much information as I have.

Mr. HOYER. I thank you for that.

You mentioned we are going to have, and you are going to try to pass a rule, I suppose, to give you suspension authority all of next week. Are there any other bills that you are contemplating bringing up under suspension? You noted the three that we discussed. Are there any others?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. BOEHNER. Which of the several hundred bills that Members have asked me to bring to the floor next week would you like to know about?

Mr. HOYER. It is a challenge, isn't it, Mr. Leader?

Mr. BOEHNER. If the gentleman would yield, we are working with Members on both sides of the aisle who have issues that have been through committee or are almost through committee that they would like to bring to the floor. As typically happens, I and my staff will work closely with you and your staff to schedule those so everyone has fair notice and we have gone through the usual scrubbing process.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman. I understand there are a lot of bills that are possible, and we appreciate that fact and appreciate his working with us to try to accommodate Members on both sides.

Two last things. Mr. GOODLATTE and Mr. PETERSON have been very concerned, as you know, about the drought and the stress that many of our farmers in rural areas of our country have

been experiencing. There has been a lot of discussion about assistance that we could give. Is there any contemplation that next week we might be able to consider an emergency disaster assistance bill, H.R. 5099, that will help our farmers and ranchers who have been badly hurt by floods, droughts and other natural disasters?

Mr. BOEHNER. I am not familiar with the bill, but I will be happy to take a look at it.

Mr. HOYER. I appreciate that.

The last question will not come as a surprise to you, I know. We still have yet to pass one appropriation bill.

Mr. BOEHNER. That's right. We are still talking about it.

Mr. HOYER. We have passed the others, but it is still out there. It is a large bill that deals with the education of our children, the health of our people, and the ability of our working people to succeed. I know that there is great attention being given to that bill. We are hopeful that it will come to the floor, and we are hopeful when it comes to the floor, there will be an opportunity to vote up or down on increasing the minimum wage over a period of time. Is there any hope or expectation that that bill might come to the floor?

Mr. BOEHNER. The gentleman is aware there are some problems with the bill. We have been having conversations about trying to solve those problems. I don't expect it to be on the floor next week.

With regard to raising the minimum wage, the House did, in fact, vote on that in late July. We sent it to the Senate where it remains under consideration.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman. Reclaiming my time, we would hope that you would continue to consider that.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2006

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

WIRETAPPING SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the President's initiative to surveil known and suspected terrorists who call from outside the United States into their calls within our borders. Simply put, this initiative has saved lives by gathering valuable intelligence our law enforcement has used to prevent and foil terrorist attacks that have and continue to be planned, as I speak.

It simply escapes me how anyone, especially the Democrats, could be against such a vital program in the global war on terror.

Maybe my colleagues are confused about the purpose and parameters of this program. This is not a program to listen in on American citizens' conversations. To the contrary, it is a narrowly tailored program that is used only in the case of international calls coming into the United States from known or suspected terrorists.

As a Nation, we are facing a new kind of war and an enemy using new and unconventional means of warfare. Many have characterized this war as a clash of civilizations. It is time we face the realization that we can use all of the tools available to win this war, or we can ignore the threat and pay heavy consequences through American lives.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

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

REPUBLICANS OUT OF TOUCH

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of turn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Washington is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, on November 7 the American people will go to the polls. As the New York Times reported this morning, only one in four Americans approves of the job being done by the Republican-controlled Congress. Seventy-five percent of American believes that Republicans have not governed in the best interests of the American people. That is a landslide vote of no confidence to the Republican Party, and I will include for