

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 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

As people of faith, we often pray to You, Lord God Almighty, out of a sense of need.

Aware of our personal limitations physically and emotionally, each of us cries out in frustration to You as our refuge and as healer. Prayer helps us, whether we are leaders or just ordinary Americans, to live our lives with greater integrity and meet our daily responsibilities.

Sometimes we are more conscious of our common needs. It is then prayer helps us identify with one another, feel compassion toward others in need and pray for them. We all desire peace of heart, health, and wisdom, as well as prudence, to make the right decisions needed each day whether we are in public service or work in the private sector.

In all cases, through prayer, Lord, You help us to see ourselves more honestly and suspend judgment of others so we can work together and more freely give You the 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 gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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.

HEALTH CARE

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the health care debate has begun in Washington

and across the country. Unfortunately, the plan Democrats have in store for the American people will do little to improve our health care situation. In fact, it will make the problem worse.

When Democrats talk about health care reform, what they really mean is a government takeover of health care. With few details available, some reports suggest the plan for this government takeover will cost upwards of \$1.2 trillion. As Robert Samuelson noted in today's Washington Post, all of this new Federal spending still will not fix the "crux of our health care dilemma."

The American people deserve a plan that makes health care more affordable and accessible to all and that allows those who like their current health care coverage to keep it.

While Democrats support raising taxes and rationing care, Republicans support health care reform that controls spending and that ensures patients and doctors make health care decisions, not a bunch of bureaucrats in Washington.

RECOGNIZING THIS WEEK AS HIGH-PERFORMANCE BUILDING WEEK

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House passed House Resolution 492, recognizing this week as High-Performance Building Week. The resolution aims to provide greater public awareness about the benefits of high-performance buildings, and it works to increase education about the impact buildings have on our environment.

Each year, our homes, offices, schools, and other buildings consume 70 percent of our electricity, 60 percent of all raw materials, and they emit 40 percent of all CO₂ emissions in the U.S. By designing and building high-performance buildings, we reduce energy consumption and our carbon footprint. We save both water and raw materials. We save demolition and construction debris from going into landfills. Most importantly, high-performance building construction creates good-paying jobs that give workers the valuable skills they need to excel in a clean energy economy.

It is my hope that Members will use this week to highlight the importance that buildings have on our environment and for Congress to continue to support future research, development and the deployment of high-performance building technologies.

EMPOWER PATIENTS, NOT GOVERNMENT

(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, President Obama and his Democrat allies in Congress have said

that they want those who currently like their health care plans to keep them. Then they publicly endorse a government-run health care insurance plan that would crowd out and eliminate the private insurance plans millions of Americans currently enjoy. They cannot have it both ways.

The Democrat big government proposals claim to increase access and affordability by letting government determine what will and will not be paid for. As the only game in town, a government insurance plan would be the sole provider and decider of the quality of health care available. Conversely, Republicans have long argued that health care reform should focus on expanding access so more Americans can afford a higher quality of care.

We should be focused on empowering more individuals and families to afford the level of care they want. If Congress chooses to empower the government and itself in crafting a new government-run insurance plan, it will directly undermine the doctor-patient relationship that is the foundation of quality American health care.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th and the global war on terrorism.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF FAYETTEVILLE SUPERINTENDENT, MR. BOBBY NEW

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bobby New, who has devoted his life to the education of our youth. Mr. New is retiring from 35 years of public education, 13 of which were as the superintendent of the Fayetteville School District.

During his time as superintendent, he provided the school district with the ideas and the innovation required for a growing area, including updating the grading structure and increasing technology throughout the district.

We are blessed to have educational professionals like Mr. New. I commend him for his service as a superintendent of the Fayetteville Public Schools, for his passion in educating our youth and for his commitment to improving our schools. I wish him success in his future endeavors.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. New, an educator and friend whose continued devotion to the Third District of Arkansas has not gone unnoticed and will never be forgotten.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote on the yeas and nays are ordered, or on