COMMENDING THE CONGRESS OF LEADERS OF WORLD AND TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 535, as amended. The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the resolution, H. Res. 535, as amended. The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 550. The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the resolution, H. Res. 550. The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COPSPONSOR OF H.R. 848

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 848, the Performance Rights Act.

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

There was no objection.

AMERICANS NEED HEALTH CARE FACTS FROM DEMOCRAT-MEDIA ALLIANCE

Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I agree with President Obama when he says there’s a need for affordable health care.

Mr. Speaker, a trillion-dollar plan is not affordable, particularly when it leaves millions of Americans without insurance.

The Republican health care plan offers a solution for all Americans for health care access, affordability, quality, and choice. Under the GOP plan, medical decisions will be made by patients and their doctors, not a government bureaucrat such as the Democrat-proposed Health Insurance Commissioner.
THE FORECLOSURE CRISIS
(Ms. TITUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, during the upcoming work session, I will return to southern Nevada, which is ground zero for the foreclosure crisis that triggered our current recession. During my time at home, I will be working with constituents who need help with their mortgages, many in homes that are underwater.

Families throughout my district are struggling to make their mortgage payments, and one out of every 13 homeowners in Nevada has faced a foreclosure filing. Folks in District Three clearly need assistance to stay in their homes and avoid foreclosures.

Tonight in kitchens across the country and in every congressional district, families worry about losing the roof over their heads. I’m sure that every one of my colleagues in Congress will hear from such families during the upcoming district work period. I hope they will bring their stories back to Washington. And when Congress reconvenes in September, let us place a renewed focus on helping families stay in their homes and avoid foreclosures.

The current fee-for-service structure does not reward a more efficient, integrated and help drive down prices for everyone. Second, it provides assurances to all Americans that there will be an affordable, comprehensive health insurance plan available to them on no matter where they live or work. In many parts of the country, there are currently only one or two insurers people can choose from.

Thank you to the leadership of Continental Airlines and to their CEO, Larry Kellner, and all of their employees. You’ve had 75 years. You should be proud.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION
(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the voluntary public health insurance option is an important part of health care reform for a number of reasons.

First, the public plan will provide a competitor for private plans that will help make the entire system more efficient and help drive down prices for everyone. Second, it provides assurance to all Americans that there will be an affordable, comprehensive health insurance plan available to them no matter where they live or work. In many parts of the country, there are currently only one or two insurers people can choose from.

Third and of vital importance, the public plan will have the ability to test and implement innovative methods of payment that have the potential to make the entire health care system more efficient and patient centered.

The current fee-for-service structure is a fragmented system. No provider will be required to participate in the public plan, but for those who do, it’s important for the public plan to be able to implement effective payment reforms for all participating providers. Allowing individual providers to negotiate their own rates and their own methods of payment with the plan will slow the vital process of moving us towards a more efficient, integrated health care system that serves both the patients and the taxpayers.

Now is the time to act on health care reform, including a robust public health insurance option.

HONORING J.D. WILLIAMS
(Mr. TOWNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the loss of J.D. Williams, who expired 3 days ago.

J.D. Williams was a very special person. He worked with the young people, taught so many how to play baseball. As a coach, he was an outstanding athlete himself.

He was always giving of himself to help others. I recall as a youngster how