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No. 10

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. McCLINTOCK).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 25, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM McCLINTOCK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

TIME TO REDUCE SPENDING TO THE 2008 LEVELS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for 1 minute.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will consider House Resolution 38, which promotes a reduction of current spending to the 2008 levels or less for the remainder of the fiscal year. This legislation seeks to cure the illness in Washington known as runaway spending.

For the past 4 years, liberals in Washington have been on a spending

spree that has not only resulted in a loss of jobs, but also historic deficits. This job-destroying agenda is not sound policy for Americans today, and it burdens future generations of Americans with crushing debt.

Last week the House took steps to repeal and replace the job-killing government takeover of health care. The NFIB, the National Federation of Independent Business, the largest organization in the United States of small businesses, reports that that will put 1.6 million jobs at risk. Now we must focus our attention on limiting spending levels.

Currently, our national deficit stands at \$14 trillion. Saddling future generations with today's debt is not the solution. The time has come to implement spending reforms to ensure we cut spending. The American people in November spoke clearly for fiscal responsibility. The tea party has made a difference—taxed enough already.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM RATCHFORD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELAURO. It is with heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the life of former Congressman William R. Ratchford, whom we lost earlier this year after a long and courageous battle with Parkinson's disease.

I talked to many friends and colleagues of Bill in recent days, and the same description kept coming up. He was modest and charming and exactly who he appeared to be. One long-time friend called him "the most fundamentally decent, unpretentious person." Another, former Senator Chris Dodd, reminded me of Bill's decency and great warmth. "He was wonderfully enthusiastic about other people's successes," Chris said, which is sadly

atypical of people in our line of business.

For that and so many other reasons, Bill was a role model to me and the rest of our delegation. He was a humble giant in Connecticut politics, well liked and respected by all, and he will be deeply missed by all those fortunate enough to have known him.

When I came to represent much of the Naugatuck Valley in 2000, Bill personally took me town by town. He knew everyone and everyone knew him. There was a mutual respect and fondness there that I have always tried to live up to ever since. Bill just had that effect on people. He was funny, kind, and down to Earth. As a humble son of a hat factory worker and a teacher, he never forgot where he came from. He understood his constituents' needs and concerns because their concerns were his. He walked in their shoes.

During 12 years in the State house, four as speaker, and three terms in the Congress, Bill focused on the needs of children and seniors, on improving public education, helping nontraditional and mid-career students go to college, and ensuring that all seniors could enjoy retirement with the health and dignity they deserve.

More than anything, Bill tried to make a difference in everything he did. In doing so, he left an indelible mark on our State and this institution. I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife, Barbara, and their three children, Shaun, Scott, and Brian, and his grandchildren. He was an extraordinary individual, and he leaves a legacy to which we should all aspire.

I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY).

Mr. COURTNEY. Thank you, Congresswoman DELAURO.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to associate my remarks with Congresswoman DELAURO's eloquence. Bill Ratchford was a giant in Connecticut politics. He

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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