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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, December 5, 2011, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2011

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Compassionate and merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As this House comes together at the end of the week, bless the work of its Members.

Give them strength, fortitude, and patience. Fill their hearts with charity, their minds with understanding, their wills with courage to do the right thing for all of America.

As it is so often easy for all of us to focus on what separates one from another, may our understanding that You have created us as one people remind us of the values that bind us all together as Americans in the human family. May that reminder empower the Members of this House to act courageously in the work they have to do for all Americans.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. NUNNELEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. NUNNELEE 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

GOVERNOR WALLER

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

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mississippi experienced a great loss this week with the death of Governor Bill Waller. He served as our Governor from 1972 to 1976, and he provided steady leadership during tumultuous times in our State. He believed that Mississippi should be a place of liberty and justice for all.

Under his leadership, we had the largest pay raise for teachers in our State's history up to that point and the most significant investment in infrastructure and highways up to that point, all while leaving our State with the largest surplus in its history up to that point.

Mississippi is a better place because of Governor Waller's leadership; and this week, we mourn his passing.

THE ELECTION PREVENTION ACT

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

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, this week I voted against H.R. 3094, the so-called Workplace Democracy and Fairness Act, or, as it has become known, the Election Prevention Act. This bill's sole purpose is to delay and prevent workers from voting in workplace elections. It proposes a 35-day mandatory waiting period before a union election can be held. It encourages frivolous suits to be filed against union formation, and it allows companies to handpick union voters.

In Maine we have a tradition of incredibly hardworking people who are essential to the health, education, and safety of our families. Collective bargaining has been at the heart of American labor since the rise of trade unions during the 19th century. Thanks to strong unions and thousands of workers, over the years we have enacted child labor laws, laws for maternity leave, and we don't have to fear unemployment if we get sick.

I am proud to stand here today with organized labor and with the NLRB, which has served our workers so well.

PULSE OF TEXAS—JOHN ON ENERGY

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

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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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