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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 7, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ADRIAN SMITH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:
We give You thanks O God for giving us another day. Please help us to use it well.

We ask Your blessing upon this assembly and upon all to whom the authority of government is given. Help them to meet their responsibilities during these days, to attend to the immediate needs and concerns of the moment, all the while enlightened by the majesty of Your creation and Your eternal spirit.

We give You thanks that we all can know and share the fruits of Your spirit, especially in this time the virtue of tolerance and reconciliation, of justice and righteousness, of goodwill and understanding, of patience and loving care for others.

Watch over this House and cause Your blessing to be upon each Member, that they might serve all the people with sincerity and truth.

May all that is done within the people's House this day be for Your great honor and 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 gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

PRESIDENT FAILS YOUNG AMERICANS

(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, last Friday, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the latest jobs report. Sadly, for the past 39 months, our Nation's unemployment rate has remained at or above 8 percent. It is gruesomely clear that the President's failed policies are not working for young Americans but, instead, are destroying jobs, with 54 percent of college graduates under 25 unemployed or underemployed.

The most recent report confirmed that more than 500,000 of discouraged Americans have given up searching for a job in the last 2 months. If the labor force remained the same size as 2009, when the President was sworn into office, our Nation's unemployment rate would be at 11 percent. The President's policies are failing young Americans with shrinking jobs and growing deficits with devastating interest payments.

It is past time for the liberal-controlled Senate to take up the House Republicans' more than 30 bills which will help create jobs.

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

CONGRATULATING ZIPPO MANUFACTURING COMPANY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania 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, today I rise to recognize Zippo Manufacturing Company, which is located in the Fifth District of Pennsylvania, city of Bradford, McKean County.

Zippo employs approximately 900 people in Bradford, which is a community of approximately 8,000 people, making it the largest employer in the county.

Zippo has been making lighters since 1895 and became very popular during World War II. Next month, Zippo will celebrate the production of its 500 millionth windproof pocket lighter at the company's manufacturing plant. The actual 500 millionth Zippo lighter will be classic brushed chrome with two-tone engraving and an individual serial number of "1."

But it's not just the number that Zippo and its employees will celebrate; it's that over the years Zippo has developed an iconic brand; it's that consumers in over 160 countries around the world buy Zippo products; it's that despite the drastic downturn in the economy, Zippo, through hard work and innovation, has continued to successfully grow its business, support our domestic manufacturers and the strength of our communities.

For these reasons, Zippo CEO Gregory Booth was recently nominated to serve on the U.S. Department of Commerce's Manufacturing Council.

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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