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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 21, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TED POE 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: Almighty God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We pray for the gift of wisdom to all with great responsibility in this House for the leadership of our Nation.

May all the Members have the vision of our Nation where respect and understanding are the marks of civility, and honor and integrity are the marks of one's character.

Give them the grace to see the best in those with whom they find disagreement, and the courage to move together with them toward solutions that best serve our great Nation.

Raise up, O God, women and men from every nation who will lead toward the paths of peace, and whose good judgment will heal the hurt between all peoples.

Bless us this day and every day, and may all that is done within these hallowed halls be for Your greater 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 gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. DELAURO 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

REPEAL OBAMACARE IN ITS ENTIRETY

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

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, soon we will know if the Supreme Court will defend the Constitution and strike down ObamaCare, or let it stand.

The Founders worried about the growth of government and the yielding of liberty. Ben Franklin warned us about the fragility of limited government when he proclaimed that the Constitutional Convention had produced "a Republic, if you can keep it."

Now it is 225 years later and a moment of truth. We will soon know if our Republic will reaffirm its commitment to the Constitution or succumb to the consolidation of unchecked power and the erosion of our cherished liberties.

Although I hope that ObamaCare will be struck down, the Founders ulti-

mately left the defense of the Constitution to the people. And I know that if the Supreme Court will not rise to the defense of the Constitution, the people will.

To all the patriots throughout the country who have dedicated themselves to the repeal of this law, let me remind you of the words of Thomas Jefferson, who once said:

The ground of liberty is to be gained by inches.

So I pledge to stand alongside all of you in that fight, inch by inch, to defend the Constitution, and repeal the ObamaCare law in its entirety.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY RESTORATION ACT

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

Ms. DELAURO. One year ago yesterday, the Supreme Court voted 5-4 in the case of Walmart v. Dukes to make it harder for workers to challenge discrimination in the workplace. Upending decades of judicial practice and precedent, the Court erected new unwarranted and challenging barriers for groups of private employees to challenge unemployment discrimination.

As a result, 1.5 million female Walmart employees were denied remedy for discrimination that resulted in smaller paychecks, limited professional advancement, and increased financial pressures for families trying to make ends meet. In fact, all workers throughout the country will find it more difficult to challenge any discrimination in the workplace because of the Court's decision.

Yesterday, I introduced the Equal Employment Opportunity Restoration Act, a thoughtful, careful, and effective legislative response to this flawed Supreme Court decision. It restores the rights of groups of plaintiffs to pursue

☐ 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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