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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 28, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GREGG HARPER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 27, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 27, 2012 at 9:12 a.m.:

That the Senate concur in the House amendment to the bill S. 3187.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 17, 2012, 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.

GLOBALLY ENGAGED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I know that what I'm about to say may be seen as heresy by many—or at least counterintuitive—but, Mr. Speaker, this statement is based in fact: outsourcing is not decimating our economy. If we take a step back and look at the big picture, setting aside demagoguery and knee-jerk reactions, we see that engagement with the worldwide marketplace is a positive thing for our economy and our shared quest to create good American jobs.

Being globally engaged takes many forms. It includes exporting our goods overseas. It includes imports. It includes complex supply chains that allow us to maximize comparative advantage and productivity on a global scale. It demands innovation, creativity, and adaptability. This is all part of the dynamic worldwide marketplace, and it does not constitute a zero sum game.

If a U.S. manufacturer can lower costs by importing some of their raw materials, increasing their competitiveness and hiring more U.S. workers as a result, our job market improves. American workers benefit. By the same token, if a company can tap into other labor markets, becoming more competitive in the process and then hiring more U.S. workers as a result, we can all benefit.

This is not a hypothetical scenario. We have the data that demonstrates the clear benefits of engaging in the worldwide marketplace. The last time the issue of outsourcing became a political flash point was in 2004. We often

heard this term, “Benedict Arnold CEOs” who were sending good U.S. jobs overseas.

The McKinsey Global Institute did an in-depth analysis of the effect of outsourcing to see what impact it was actually having on our economy. What they found was very interesting. They found that companies that utilize outsourcing as a component of their business plans enjoy new export opportunities, increased productivity, and significant cost savings, all of which support new investment in the United States and greater job creation right here at home. Furthermore, the jobs that are created by globally engaged companies tend to be higher-skill, higher-waged jobs than those created by their nonglobally engaged counterparts.

Mr. Speaker, the findings of the McKinsey report are only buttressed by my own firsthand experience. I'll never forget, several years ago I was in Kathmandu visiting one of those call centers. Now, many would have viewed that call center as a symbol of outsourced jobs, and yet when I looked around, I found U.S. companies right there. I'm not claiming that all of these products were manufactured right here in the United States, but many were manufactured here in this hemisphere. They had names on them like Carrier air conditioners. There was a Westinghouse refrigerator there, Dell computers, and AT&T telephones. Rather than stealing jobs from Americans and this hemisphere, this call center epitomized the very way that global engagement benefits us all.

It is simply inaccurate to claim that every job created overseas destroys a job here in the United States, and it completely misses the point. Rather than demonizing those who are trying to build competitive companies that grow our economy and create opportunity for Americans, we should be looking at what we can do to attract

□ 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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investment here to the United States. We should be looking at what we can do to empower entrepreneurs to revitalize our economy and restore our job market.

Mr. Speaker, attacking private enterprise won't create a single job here or elsewhere. In fact, the danger of isolationist, mercantilist rhetoric is that it can spawn bad policy that further stifles innovation and economic growth.

If we want to have a constructive debate that leads to policies that will encourage growth and job creation, we need to look at the facts, and the facts are very simple. Engaging globally through exports, imports, outsourcing, in-sourcing, and all the many ways of tapping into the dynamic, competitive worldwide marketplace is the best way to get Americans back to work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues not to succumb to the politically expedient but economically damaging rhetoric of isolationism.

STOP MILITARY RAPE

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to implore this body to finally take meaningful action to end the epidemic of rape and sexual assault in the military. For 25 years, Congress has held dramatic hearings on this issue. It has rocked the military branches. Committee members have beat their chests and demanded answers from decorated generals and military leaders who testified. Congress demanded reports. These reports were provided and are now gathering dust on shelves around Washington, D.C.

The time for reports is over. Now it's time for action to solve this problem.

The solution is to take the reporting and investigation of cases of rape and sexual assault out of the military chain of command and place them in a separate office independent of the chain of command with the authority to investigate and prosecute within the military.

Last week I called for the House Armed Services Committee to hold a hearing on the widespread sex scandal at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. No hearing date has been set.

The charges of rape, assault, and sodomy leveled against six instructors at Lackland are astonishing. One instructor is accused of raping or assaulting 10 victims, and another confessed to having sexual relationships with another 10 victims of his own. Yesterday we learned that 12 instructors are under investigation for sexual misconduct with trainees and that a criminal investigation is ongoing on four different Air Force bases now.

Like many cases of rape and sexual assault, the perpetrators are not denying that they engaged in sexual misconduct; they simply contend that the sex was consensual. It comes down to

the word of the accuser and the accused, the instructor against the trainee. In the military, this usually means the perpetrator gets off or receives a disproportionately small punishment, and the victim endures an arduous and humiliating legal process with little sense of justice at the end.

Every day more disgusting news is unearthed about Lackland. Everyone wants to know: What is being done about it?

This scandal is remarkably similar to the Aberdeen scandal that rocked the Army in the 1990s. Fifteen years ago, a Republican-led Senate held a hearing on a sex scandal at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland.

□ 1010

The Army brought charges against 12 instructors for sexual assault on female trainees under their command. Nearly 50 women made sexual abuse charges, including 26 rape accusations. One instructor was cleared. The remaining 11 were either convicted at court martial or punished administratively.

In an interview about the scandal, then-Assistant Secretary of Defense Kenneth Bacon said:

The issue here is the relationship between a trainer and a trainee. The Army regulations bar intimate relationships between trainers and trainees, between drill sergeants and trainees, because they are fraught with misuse of power, with misuse of influence, or the possibilities of misuse of power and influence.

This may be hard for some in the civilian world to relate to, but it is the constant reality within our Armed Forces. It is ingrained in our military servicemen and -women to follow the orders of their chain of command and never disobey.

Here is an excerpt from a 1996 interview with an Army recruit who was raped by her instructor at Aberdeen. The victim, a South Carolina native who joined the Army in December of 1995 as a way to pay for college, said her instructor once ordered her to the bathroom. "A few minutes later he came in behind me, and that's when he started to tell me to do certain things," she said. "To disrobe?" Asked the reporter. "Mm-hmm," she said. She said she never screamed, never said "no," only that she was traumatized. "When you had sex in the bathroom, was it something you wanted," the reporter asked. "No," Bleckley said. Nothing has changed.

Last month in Texas, two victims were asked if they resisted when their Air Force training instructor lured them into a dark supply room to have sex. "No," they said. They froze.

What is happening at Lackland Air Force Base is no different than what happened at Aberdeen Proving Ground 15 years ago. After that scandal, we heard assurances about how seriously the crimes were taken and how "we're going to get to the bottom of this problem." Yet clearly the military is unable to police itself on matters of rape and sexual assault.

I called for a hearing into the Lackland scandal because we need to know once and for all why instructors have been permitted to abuse power so freely. And we need to know from top brass that the phrase "zero tolerance for sexual assault in the military" is a fact, not a talking point.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 12 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Greg Lafferty, Willowdale Chapel, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, we bless You this day for You are good. You make Your Sun rise on the evil and the good; You let Your rain fall on the just and the unjust.

You give all people everywhere life and breath and everything. Yet we recognize that in this great Nation, we are among the most blessed.

You've granted us freedom and abundance, safety and security, the rule of law, and neighborly love.

Guide us, Lord, that we may steward these good gifts for the benefit of all. And today, Lord, grant this House of Representatives the wisdom, humility, and diligence to govern well, that in some measure good might overcome evil, beauty might outshine ugliness, and love might undo hate. And in this, Lord, may You be honored and may our Nation dwell in deeper peace and safety.

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 gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. MALONEY 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.