

when a shared sense of national unity might bring greater hope and possible solution to serious political problems.

Send, O God, Your healing grace upon those torn nations and upon the Members of this assembly who struggle to see the shared hope for a better future in those with whom they disagree.

All this day and through the week, may our Representatives do their best to find solutions to pressing issues facing our Nation. Please hasten the day when justice and love shall dwell in the hearts of all peoples and rule the affairs of the nations of Earth.

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 Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance?

Mr. FITZPATRICK 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

AMERICA'S MILITARY STRENGTH

(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, yesterday, the President unveiled his budget and used the military as a punching bag to push his Big Government programs.

According to a recent Charleston Post and Courier editorial:

Congress should proceed with extreme caution before going along with the latest recommendations for "savings" through deep defense cuts. If America rapidly retreats from world power status, our enemies will jump into the void. We can't unilaterally end the Islamic radical terrorists' war on us, and we shouldn't ignore history lessons about what happens when the United States tries to isolate itself from the menaces that threaten the international community.

At a time when threats are increasing and countries on nearly every continent are in turmoil, it is naive for the President to downgrade our military strength. Maintaining our national defense is the primary function of the national government.

I find it dangerous that the President has suggested this proposal which places American families at risk of further attacks. We should follow the advice of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Our Nation is still at war. Peace through strength.

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

REMEMBERING DR. DON WILL

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

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true champion for education, Donald Will, who passed away this past February. Dr. Donald Will was a fervent advocate of peace and influenced Chapman University's role in promoting peace and the study of peacemaking.

A member of the Chapman faculty since 1987, Don was described as a pillar of the Chapman community for over 25 years. He came to Chapman University when it needed his expertise most, and the world needed his peace expertise, and he has had such a magnificent effect that lasts until now.

During his time with Chapman, Dr. Will put all of his heart and time from his academic and personal life into carrying out the pursuit of peace. And don't we need it today in our world?

His commitment to his students and to the value of peaceful relations shone brightly through his teachings. He leaves a lasting legacy of humility, humanity, and dedication as he strengthened the link between school and home, both locally, nationally, and in an international way.

I am honored to have known and to have worked with Dr. Donald Will, and I ask my colleagues to honor him today.

ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE ENERGY STRATEGY

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

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker and my colleagues, I know the whole House is paying close attention to the crisis in Ukraine. What is going on there is more than a cause for concern. It is a cause for action. America has a responsibility to stand up for freedom around the globe, and the House will work with the administration to support the Ukrainian people and confront Russian aggression.

In fact, the House has already taken serious steps in this regard. For years, we have been pursuing an all-of-the-above energy strategy. It is part of our focus on the floor this week, in fact. Because developing our own resources doesn't just bring jobs home, it strengthens America abroad.

Last month, the Energy and Commerce Committee released a report that says:

By becoming a natural gas exporter, the U.S. can supplant the influence of other exporters, like Russia and Iran, while strengthening ties with our allies and trading partners around the world.

The key word in that statement is "can." We can supplant Russia's influence, but we won't, so long as we have to contend with the Energy Department's achingly slow approval process.

As we speak, the administration is sitting on 24 applications for natural gas exports. It has approved just six in the last 3 years. Now, this amounts to a de facto ban that only emboldens Vladimir Putin, allowing him to sell large quantities of natural gas to our allies.

The American people have seen the threat that Mr. Putin puts forward. They know something must be done. The President should do the right thing here and end this de facto ban, so that we can strengthen both our economy and our security here and abroad.

THE BUFFALO NIAGARA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, in a recent nationwide realignment, the Transportation Security Administration made the decision to consolidate all administrative functions for its upstate region at the Albany Airport.

I believe this decision was misguided and illogical. In all of the other proposed consolidations around the country, smaller airports are being made subordinate to larger airports; but in this case, inexplicably, the TSA proposes to make the Buffalo/Niagara Falls International Airport subordinate to Albany, despite the fact that Buffalo's airport has twice the passenger volume as Albany.

Furthermore, nearly 40 percent of passengers flying out of Buffalo are Canadians and other foreign nationals, which would seem to necessitate a more complex TSA operation.

Mr. Speaker, TSA's rollout of this proposed change has been full of inconsistencies and contradictions, and that is why I have asked TSA to reconsider this flawed decision and consolidate operations where it makes sense, in Buffalo.

TUBEROUS SCLEROSIS COMPLEX RESEARCH

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Rare Disease Congressional Caucus, I rise today in support of continued funding for tuberous sclerosis complex research in the fiscal year 2015 Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

TSC is a genetic condition that afflicts an estimated 50,000 Americans,

causing tumors in the kidneys, lungs, liver, heart, eyes, skin, and brain. Researchers have linked TSC to seizures, autism, and severe intellectual disability.

Research on this condition is also having a notable impact on our understanding of traumatic brain injury and other medical conditions, like cancer and diabetes.

The TSC program at the Department of Defense is critical to our continued understanding of this condition.

With me on the floor today, Mr. Speaker, is a beautiful little girl, Stephanie from Pennsylvania, who has been diagnosed with TSC.

Her brave spirit brings light to the importance of this cause and helps remind us of others living with this condition across the United States.

It is crucial that we continue to band together as a community and a legislative body to support this significant research initiative.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROSELEHTINEN). The Chair reminds Members not to refer to persons on the floor as guests of the House.

DEEPENING THE SAVANNAH HARBOR

(Mr. BARROW of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise in great disappointment that the President's budget makes no provision for deepening the Savannah harbor.

The Port of Savannah is one of the busiest in the country and is a major thoroughway for all sorts of essential goods coming in and out of the country. The State of Georgia has collaborated with the Federal Government to ensure that the port is deepened to accommodate the larger ships that will soon come through the expanded Panama Canal.

After decades of study, State and local stakeholders, congressional authorizers and appropriators, the Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the EPA have all endorsed this project as technically feasible, economically justified, cost-effective, environmentally responsible, and in the national interest.

Vice President BIDEN recently visited Savannah and promised we would get this project done, "come hell or high water." Only OMB now stands in the way.

This project makes sense to almost everyone who has studied it. I share the frustration of my constituents that it continues to be stalled by bureaucracy, and I urge the President to lead, follow, or get out of the way of the effort to make this project happen.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Madam Speaker, as a business owner of 42 years, I know a few things about job creation, and with more than 10 million Americans out of work, it is time to energize the energy business. We need to let the private sector drive our initiatives and promote the advancement of safe nuclear energy.

Nuclear power sustains 100,000 high-paying jobs, and 2,000 of those are in Texas facilities. In my district, the 25th District of Texas, there are hundreds of highly skilled workers at the Comanche Peak Nuclear Plant who are doing a great job and are doing great things to promote this clean, reliable, and inexpensive energy source, less expensive than coal or natural gas.

Texas plays a vital national and international role in the development of new technologies and is among the 10 States with the greatest nuclear power generation capacity in the whole country.

Nuclear energy should play a major role in our Nation's all-inclusive energy plan, and that is why our policies should support it. Nuclear creates good jobs, puts billions of dollars into our economy, and is a safe, clean, and reliable energy source we simply can't afford to ignore. Let's move forward. In God we trust.

JOHN BUHRMASTER'S ICBA NOMINATION

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John Buhrmaster, who is president of 1st National Bank of Scotia in the capital region of New York, upon his nomination as chairman of the Independent Community Bankers of America, here in Washington, D.C.

The Independent Community Bankers of America represents almost 7,000 community banks across our great Nation, financial institutions that provide opportunity for our local small businesses and family farms to expand operations, develop surrounding economies, and hire locally.

John will provide steady leadership for an 11-person executive panel that draws expertise and know-how from across the Nation to support our small banks.

Again, I congratulate Mr. Buhrmaster on his appointment, and I look forward to working with him to boost small financial institutions and their important role in economic expansion on a community level.

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CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

(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. Madam Speaker, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, which established the Cooperative Extension Service. Extension is a unique educational partnership among Federal, State, and local governments and the Nation's land-grant universities to extend research-based knowledge to the American public and private industry.

Over the years, Extension has connected individuals and families with the resources and expertise of our Nation's land-grant university system. In Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State University provides this educational network, working to help families make sound economic and nutritional choices, and help businesses increase efficiency and troubleshoot production and industry challenges.

Madam Speaker, today, the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences is on the Hill with agricultural businesses and industry advocates to share with us the importance of the Cooperative Extension Service.

As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act, I want to give congratulations and recognition to the outstanding Penn State Extension team, which is led by Interim Dean Barb Christ, and thank them for their important work to improve the lives and economic outcomes of countless families and businesses across the country.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Ms. HAHN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HAHN. Madam Speaker, this month we join together as a nation to celebrate Women's History Month. We pay tribute to the generation of women whose courage, perseverance, and leadership have helped build our great Nation—from everyday working mothers to women like civil rights icon Rosa Parks and labor activist Dolores Huerta. Our journey would not be possible without these great women and so many others who proudly took the seat at the table and at the front of the bus to chart the way for our Nation's progress.

But, while progress has been made in gender equality, we still have a lot more work to do when two-thirds of the minimum wage workers are women in this country and nearly one-third of families headed by a single female are living in poverty.

Instead of simply using Women's History Month to highlight the contributions of women leaders, let's take this