

filing. That is why you now have lines 5a and 5b on those forms.

This is the reason that I became so interested in this issue. When I was a State senator in Tennessee, I led not a 4-day or 4-week or 4-month, but a 4-year battle against implementation of a State income tax in my State—4 full years. It was quite a fight. The people of the State of Tennessee worked with me to make certain that we would remain State income tax-free.

Now, of course, they wanted that State income tax to pay for a health care plan. It had been the test case for HillaryCare. It was known as TennCare. That program of government-run health care exceeded the expectations of its budget by not 100 percent; it quadrupled in cost over a 5-year period of time. So Tennesseans learned in 2000, 2001, and 2002 the message and the lesson of what a State income tax would do, how it would take more money out of their pocket.

As I came to Congress in 2003, one of the very first things we did was to put attention on restoring this deductibility. It is an important bill. I congratulate Congressman BRADY, Chairman BRADY for his work on it. I thank him for his partnership on the issue. I encourage my colleagues to vote for H.R. 622.

WEAR RED TO REMEMBER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask for a moment of remembrance for the girls of Nigeria. I believe, and people all around the world believe, that we can and should do more to bring our girls home, the girls who have already suffered so much.

Late on the evening of April 14, in the northeast corner of Nigeria, young girls were attending a government-sponsored secondary school when they heard gunshots. Soon after, they saw men on motorbikes entering the school compound. The men told them that they were policemen, but they were lying. The men gathered all the girls together, some 276 of them. They were mostly Christian girls between the ages of 16 and 18. Then more men came, fighters, and the one guard ran away. The men began shouting, and the girls realized that they were captured by Boko Haram.

As most know by now, Boko Haram is a homegrown Islamist insurgency. Roughly translated, their name means, "Western education is forbidden." In the eyes of the men, the girls had committed a grave sin of seeking an education. According to a report by Human Rights Watch, the birthplace of Boko Haram is Borno State in northeastern Nigeria, a place of great poverty. Estimates by Human Rights Watch suggest that more than 7,000 civilians have died at their hands, and

the fatalities are just part of the horror.

To the anguish of the girls' families, some meet a fate even worse than death. Women and girls abducted by Boko Haram are forced to marry insurgent fighters, converted to Islam, and endure beatings and psychological abuse, forced labor, and rape in captivity, and the terror will last a lifetime. The terror group has now abducted more than 500 young women and girls since 2009.

Back in Nigeria that night, some of the terrified girls were forced into a truck and taken away. Others marched into the jungle. That night and the coming months a handful of them—57 of them—escaped, and reports are that some of them have died.

Now, after nearly a year of inaction, the Nigerian Army along with forces from Chad, Niger, and Cameroon have mounted an offensive against the terrorists and have retaken territory, but still the Nigerian Army says they have no clue where the girls are.

As I speak, there are over 200 frightened, abused, and desperate girls somewhere in the jungle hoping against hope that they are not forgotten. Today, April 14, marks 1 year since the girls were taken, 1 year in captivity, 1 year in terror.

Though I am glad to see that Nigeria's immediate neighbors have begun providing assistance, I believe it is time for us to call on all African leaders to do more, to come together, to provide resources, to provide manpower to unite and fight against Boko Haram. We here in America have a role to play. I encourage everyone to do whatever they can, small or large, to bring our girls home and to keep the pressure up.

Consider for a moment how thousands of terrorists who comprise ISIS and Boko Haram have had such success in recruiting people from distant lands to pledge their lives to their murderous cause by using social media platforms. Well, we are the people who created social media, and we are the billions. Can we not do better than them, pursuing a cause of mercy, not murder? Let us, the billions, overwhelm their hate with our hope. Let's defeat their violence with our vision of a better world.

I hope you will consider that you will do one small thing to help. Consider joining one of the global schoolgirl marches taking place across the world on this day. Tweet out your call to bring our girls home. Post something on Facebook, or you can join me in the purple and red ribbon campaign of remembrance. Tonight the Empire State Building in New York City will light up in red and purple in remembrance of the girls. Purple is the color of violence against women, red of bring back our girls. There will be a march from the United Nations to the Empire State Building to thank them for remembering.

Let each of us find some way that we can help to bring these girls home. If we don't, the violence will continue. If

you don't stand up and fight back, they will continue abducting, murdering, raping, and killing young girls.

I call upon everyone to do what they can—particularly, the African leaders—to stand up and fight back against Boko Haram.

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 45 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

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless abundantly the Members of this people's House. During this season of new growth, may Your redemptive power help them to see new ways to productive service, fresh approaches to understanding each other, especially those across the aisle, and renewed commitment to solving the problems facing our Nation.

May they and may we all be transformed by Your Grace and better reflect the sense of wonder, even joy, at the opportunities to serve that are ever before us.

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 Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CHABOT 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.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I

send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 199

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY: Mr. Meehan, to rank immediately after Mr. Marino.

COMMITTEE ON RULES: Mr. Byrne and Mr. Newhouse.

Ms. FOXX (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARDY). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT OFFICE MANAGER OF THE OFFICE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the District Office Manager of the Office of the 18th Congressional District of Illinois:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, April 8, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a grand jury subpoena for testimony issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois.

I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

BRYAN RUDOLPH,
District Office Manager.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF THE OFFICE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from a Staff Member of the Office of the 18th Congressional District of Illinois:

MARCH 31, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a grand jury subpoena for testimony, issued by the U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois.

After consultation with counsel, I will make the determinations required by rule VIII.

Sincerely,

SARAH ROGERS.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF THE OFFICE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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After consultation with counsel, I will make the determinations required by rule VIII.

Sincerely,

DAYNE LAHOOD.

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After consultation with counsel, I will make the determinations required by rule VIII.

Sincerely,

MARK ROMAN.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRESS DESERVES VOTE ON IRAN DEAL

(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, the President has put at risk the safety of American families and of America's allies, especially Israel and Arab nations, by entering into a meaningless framework with an untruthful regime.

Senator Joe Lieberman, in a recent op-ed in *The Wall Street Journal*, reminds President Obama that the sanctions he is conceding were put in place by a bipartisan coalition in Congress. The article by the former Democrat Senator explains to us of a powerful

time in history when leaders of both parties worked together to ratify arms control agreements in Congress during the cold war. We did not neglect our constitutional principles then in the face of World War III, nor should we now for an agreement that will allow Iran to have nuclear weapons in the future.

Our Founding Fathers were purposefully unclear on the powers of foreign policy in order to prevent one person from ruling without restraint. President Obama should submit his agreement with Iran for congressional approval. I appreciate the bipartisan efforts of Senator BOB CORKER and Senator BOB MENENDEZ.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

EQUAL PAY DAY

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today, on Equal Pay Day, we call attention to the fact that American women who work full time are paid only 78 percent of what men earn. For women of color, the discrepancy is worse.

This pay gap will cost a 25-year-old woman \$34,000 over the next 5 years. Over her career, she will lose \$431,000 relative to men. Women make up nearly half of the American workforce. Underpaying half of our workers hurts women, hurts families, and hurts the economy. In New York, we have the smallest pay gap among the States, but women in New York still earn only 86 cents for every dollar a man is paid. We can do much better.

When President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act, which requires equal pay for equal work, women's pay was 59 percent of men's. We have made progress, but time has exposed loopholes that hinder the law.

I call on the House to pass Congresswoman DELAURO's Paycheck Fairness Act, which would close these loopholes and bring us closer to pay equity. Let's act now to make equal pay for equal work a reality.

COMMEMORATING PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S DEATH

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

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the 150th anniversary of the tragic day an assassin's bullet took President Abraham Lincoln's life.

There is no greater challenge than leading a nation through an armed conflict against itself, one that divides families and longtime friends.

When responding to criticism of his efforts to save the Union, President Lincoln said, "If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't