

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Three minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1834

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on June 8, 2010, I regret that I was not present to vote on H.R. 1061 and H. Res. 518.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both bills.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to attend to several votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on final passage of H.R. 1061, and "aye" on final passage of H. Res. 518.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber today. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 337 and 338.

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:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 8, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at 3:08 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a copy of a notice filed earlier with the Federal Register continuing the emergency with respect to Western Balkans first declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE WESTERN BALKANS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-118)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred

to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the Federal Register for publication the enclosed notice stating that the Western Balkans emergency is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2010.

The crisis constituted by the actions of the persons engaged in, or assisting, sponsoring, or supporting (i) extremist violence in the Republic of Macedonia and elsewhere in the Western Balkans region, or (ii) acts obstructing implementation of the Dayton Accords in Bosnia, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of June 10, 1999, in Kosovo, or the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 2001 in Macedonia, that led to the declaration of a national emergency on June 26, 2001, in Executive Order 13219, and to amendment of that order in Executive Order 13304 of May 28, 2003, has not been resolved. The acts of extremist violence and obstructionist activity outlined in Executive Order 13219, as amended, are hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the Western Balkans and maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 8, 2010.

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:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 8, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at 3:08 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a copy of a notice filed earlier with the Federal Register continuing the emergency with respect to Belarus first declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO BELARUS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-119)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the Federal Register and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the Federal Register for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency and related measures blocking the property of certain persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Belarus are to continue in effect beyond June 16, 2010.

Despite the release of internationally recognized political prisoners in the fall of 2008 and our continuing efforts to press for further reforms related to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in Belarus, serious challenges remain. The actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons to undermine Belarus democratic processes or institutions, to commit human rights abuses related to political repression, and to engage in public corruption pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared to deal with this threat and the related measures blocking the property of certain persons.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 8, 2010.

CONGRATULATING CHARLES COLE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

(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, I rise today to congratulate Charles Cole Memorial Hospital in Coudersport, Pennsylvania, for winning a 2010 Achievement Award from the Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania.

Charles Cole Memorial was among 17 winners chosen from a pool of 134 entries. Through their incredibly successful efforts to solidify their connection to the community, the Charles Cole

leaders and staff showed the importance of transparency and accessibility in the health care field.

The hospital established five Community Benefit Advisory Committees as outlets for the community to become involved in planning, operations, and governance. Committees met several times, both regionally and as part of the organization, and continue to serve as integral team members and community correspondents for the hospital staff. Recent data, when compared to baseline data taken before the establishment of these advisory committees, showed improvement in every major field, including the image of the hospital, visibility in the community, and quality of care.

The hospital will continue this great program. And as a person who spent many years in the health care field, I understand the importance of this effort and hope to see Charles Cole Memorial Hospital continue to succeed in the future.

CONGRATULATING FORT BEND BAPTIST EAGLES

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Fort Bend Baptist Eagles on their second consecutive 4A Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools softball title.

The Eagles beat Fort Worth Christian on May 14 in Belton, Texas. They won 1-0 behind senior Rachel Fox's 10 strikeouts. Coach Kelly Ferguson coached her third team in 4 years to a State championship.

Participating in high school sports builds leadership and confidence in student athletes, and the Eagles have exemplified those traits in spades. The Fort Bend Baptist Eagles are proven role models for their school and community. Through hard work and dedication, they have achieved the goals they set themselves at the beginning of the season.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Fort Bend Baptist Eagles on their back-to-back championship titles. I thank them for representing their community and their school with pride.

ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO SELF- DEFENSE

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

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to affirm Israel's right to self-defense and to express my outrage over the knee-jerk international condemnation of our strong ally following the recent flotilla incident.

The video is clear: The activists ignored warnings from Israeli forces to

turn away from Gaza, and they disregarded invitations to offload their supplies elsewhere. Worst of all, they placed Israeli forces in grave danger by brutally attacking them.

Many countries immediately condemned Israel. Their reactions sharply contrast with their failures to denounce the hostile behavior of Iran and North Korea.

I applaud the Obama administration for avoiding this double standard. The United States must always stand against the unfair treatment of an important ally.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

UNQUALIFIED JUSTICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the new Supreme Court pick, Elena Kagan, has never been a judge. She's never seen a courtroom from the bench. She's never had a judge's responsibilities. Elena Kagan has never instructed a jury. She's never ruled on a point of law—any point of law. She has not decided even one constitutional issue. She's never tried a criminal case. She's never tried a civil case. She's never even tried a traffic case.

We don't know whether or not she believes the Constitution is the foundation of American law or whether she thinks, like many, the Constitution constantly changes based upon the personal opinions of Supreme Court Justices. But either way, Elena Kagan has never had to make a constitutional call in a court of law in the heat of a trial.

□ 1845

She has never admitted evidence or ruled out evidence or ruled on the chain of custody regarding evidence. She has never made even one decision regarding any rule of evidence.

She has never ruled on the exclusionary rule, the Miranda doctrine, an unlawful search and seizure allegation, a due process claim, an equal protection violation or any constitutional issue.

She has never empaneled a jury. She has never instructed a jury on a reasonable doubt or sentenced a person to the penitentiary.

She has never had to decide whether a witness was telling the truth or not. As a judge, she has never heard a plaintiff, a defendant, a victim, or a child testify as a witness. She has never made that all-important decision of de-

termining whether or not a person is guilty or not guilty of a crime.

She has never held a gavel in a courtroom, and she has never made any decision in the heat of a trial. She has never ruled on a life-or-death issue.

Elena Kagan has never made a judgment call from the bench—not a single one. Yet, as a Supreme Court Justice, she would be second-guessing trial judges and trial lawyers who had been through the mud, blood, and tears of actual trials in actual courts of law. How can she possibly be qualified to fill the post of a Supreme Court Justice?

Kagan is an elitist academic who has spent most of her time out of touch with the real world and with the way things really are. Being a judge would be an exercise to the new Supreme Court nominee. She has read about being a judge in books, I suppose. She might even have played pretend in her college classroom. But she has never been a judge. She has never made a judicial decision, and her first one should not be as a member of the United States Supreme Court. She has never determined justice—not a single time. Yet she wants to be a Supreme Court Justice.

Besides never being a judge, she has never even been a trial lawyer. She has never questioned a witness, argued a case to a jury, or tried any case to any jury anywhere in the United States. She has absolutely no courtroom trial experience as a judge or as a lawyer. Real-world experience makes a difference. Reading books about something and actually doing it are two completely different things.

People's lives and livelihoods are at stake in these courtroom decisions. Courtroom experience is fundamental to being a judge on the Supreme Court. As anyone who has been through the court system can testify, a courtroom is a whole different world.

Putting Elena Kagan on the United States Supreme Court is like putting someone in charge of a brain surgery unit who has never done an operation. She may be qualified for the classroom, but she is certainly not qualified for the courtroom. She should stay in the schoolhouse since she has never been in trial at the courthouse. We cannot put the Constitution in the hands of someone who has never had to use it in the trial of a real case in a real court of law.

Elena Kagan—unqualified justice. And that's just the way it is.

THE 10TH AMENDMENT TASK FORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.