

The Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), At Large.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4355(a), of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Military Academy:

The Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), from the Committee on Appropriations (reappointment).

The Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), from the Committee on Appropriations (reappointment).

The Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), designated by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

The Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), At Large.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 9355(a), of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Air Force Academy:

The Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD), At Large.

The Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), designated by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

The Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), from the Committee on Appropriations (reappointment).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 one-minutes per side.

RECOGNIZING SISTER JEANNE O'LAUGHLIN

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin, President of Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida.

During her 21-year tenure as President, Sister Jeanne has resuscitated a once-dormant campus with limited resources into a thriving, world-class institute of higher learning.

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Setting ambitious goals for the university, Sister Jeanne has been a poised and relentless leader in seeing them through to fruition. Once a struggling university with only 2,000 students, Barry now boasts a student population of 8,500. Barry's student body represents more than 70 countries and has earned the distinction of being the most diverse southern regional university.

Sister Jeanne's contributions, however, are not limited to the boundaries of Barry's campus. As a woman of faith and compassion, Sister Jeanne has dedicated herself to serving those in needs. We count children, the home-

less, and women among the many lives she has touched.

Please join me in recognizing Sister Jeanne for her selfless commitments to our community and for turning Barry University into a factory of men and women who graduate better prepared to serve their fellow man.

STOP PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES FROM ROBBING AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, the great country western music singer Merle Haggard has a song he sings called "Rainbow Stew." One of the lines in that song says, "One of these days, when the air clears up and the sun comes shining through, we will all be drinking that free Bubble-up and eating that rainbow stew."

Tonight, the pharmaceutical manufacturers and the insurance companies are going to have a big rainbow stew banquet for the Republicans. They are going to serve free Bubble-up. The pharmaceutical manufacturers in this country are going to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars to do this, and they are pledging millions more in another attempt to deceive the senior citizens in this country and make them think that they are going to get a prescription drug benefit.

Corporate greed in America has gone too far. It is time for this Congress to fulfill its obligation and stop the pharmaceutical companies from robbing the American people.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS AND PARTISANSHIP

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, Republicans have been working hard to design a plan to help America's seniors get the prescription drugs that they need. No senior should ever have to choose between putting food on the table and getting the medicine they need. American seniors need our help.

Now we have a plan that is working its way through the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means and should be voted on soon. The Democrats have their plan, too. The Democrats plan may be too expensive and inefficient, but I think we in the majority are willing to work with them.

Unfortunately, it looks like our friends on the other side of the aisle are not willing to reciprocate. The Washington Post reported on Tuesday, and I quote, "Democratic strategists are advising candidates to tout the Democrats' plan and are encouraging them to take shots at the Republicans."

Mr. Speaker, that story was written on the same day our plan was unveiled; before even reading it, already attacking it. Looks to me like our friends on the other side of the aisle are just out for political points, not to solve problems. I hope they will prove me wrong.

AMERICANS NEED PRESCRIPTION DRUG RELIEF

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

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, this morning in The Washington Post, I read with alarm: "Drug Firms Among Big Donors at GOP Event Tonight." Thirty million dollars is going to be raised.

In lieu of trying to provide a prescription drug benefit for seniors, why can we not do the right thing today and stay as long as it is going to take to make sure that we do the right thing for our seniors?

Every weekend that I go home and speak to my seniors, most of them say, Congresswoman SOLIS, what is it going to take for the Congress to listen to the needs of senior citizens? And I tell them that right now our House is not working in the democratic mode. We are not allowing for discussion and debate so that we can provide assistance and benefits that are much needed by our senior citizens.

This is a sham that is occurring here today, and it is unfortunate that we cannot come together and work in a bipartisan manner to see that our seniors and those that are on fixed incomes receive the kind of relief that is due them.

Many people save their money for their retirement. Right now they are faced with some major hardships. I would ask that Republicans meet with us until after 5 o'clock today, before they go to their fundraiser, and let us get the work done for our seniors on prescription drug relief.

NEW BILL BRINGS HOPE TO SENIORS FACING SKYROCKETING DRUG BILLS

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, for years, seniors have been saying that they need help with their prescription drug bills. None of us anticipated prescription drugs would be the backbone of modern medicine, and we certainly did not anticipate that the cost would be so high.

I am proud of this new bill that has just emerged which brings a new hope to all seniors who face skyrocketing drug prices. The Medicare Modernization and Prescription Drug Act will ensure that all Medicare beneficiaries will be covered.

Not only that, but those who want to stay with their current coverage may