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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, July 18, 2011, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 15, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TED POE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the House gathers at the end of a difficult week, grant the Members peace and calm, that they might attend to the issues and policies that they continue to consider. May they honor the values and traditions that we share as a people. Help them be mindful of the gifts of peace, justice, fairness, and respect that are our common heritage.

As it is so often easy for all of us to focus on what separates one from another, may our understanding that You have created us as one people remind us of the values that bind us all together as Americans in the human family.

May all that is done this day in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. QUIGLEY 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 PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side.

NEED FOR BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, if our Nation's debt crisis has taught us anything, it is that we need a permanent fiscal solution to keep America the permanent land of the free for our children and grandchildren. There is only one way to bind Congress to such a

commitment, and that is a constitutional amendment requiring us to balance the budget.

Ordinary spending cuts and pledges to slash the deficit are no longer sufficient. Washington went on a record spending binge in the last 2 years and left Americans in an economic hangover. New taxes, as some propose, would only punish the victim and reward the spenders with more money to waste. We need to stop spending money we don't have and begin living within our means. The future of our Nation depends on it.

A Washington promise is always temporary. A constitutional amendment is permanent. For the sake of tomorrow's generations, let's get it done today.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE DEBT CRISIS

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

Mr. KUCINICH. The huffing and puffing over the debt crisis is reminiscent of Washington's tumult over the Wall Street bailout: Panic the public with claims the sky is falling and then start to drop things from the sky. In this case threats that Social Security checks will not be sent out.

We must avoid default, but Social Security didn't cause the debt crisis. Social Security has nothing to do with the debt crisis. Withholding Social Security checks or cutting Social Security benefits would represent a default

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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