

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3993

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 3993.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE JAMES P. MCGOVERN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JAMES P. MCGOVERN, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 18, 2012.

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 subpoena for testimony issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Industrial Accidents, in connection with a workers' compensation dispute currently pending before that department.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that because the subpoena is not "material and relevant," compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

JAMES P. MCGOVERN,
Member of Congress.

HEEDING THE LESSONS OF THE TITANIC

(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, this week we remember and recognize the sinking of the Titanic 100 years ago. It is humbling to reflect upon the frailty of even so mighty a ship.

Titanic-like, this country faces threats that this generation must sadly confront and must address. We can see the icebergs in the water ahead. Recent spikes in interest rates on Spanish debt reinforce cause for concern about our own future. President Obama's successive trillion-dollar budget deficits have sunk us deeper in debt than we've ever been before. We see the fiscal icebergs looming around us, yet the Senate has not even passed a budget for 1,000 days.

Mr. Speaker, it's time to recognize that we cannot spend money that we do

not have. It's time for us to get serious about finding ways to steer for open water. We owe it to ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren to balance the long-term income and expenses of this government and of this country. If we do not steer clear of the icebergs, they will send us down.

□ 1710

IN DEFENSE OF THE GREAT STATE OF NEVADA

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

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in defense of the great State of Nevada. For almost 30 years, out-of-state Washington politicians have been trying to dump the Nation's nuclear waste in my State's backyard at a place called Yucca Mountain.

The site is 90 miles from the world's greatest tourism destination, Las Vegas, and in order to get the radioactive toxic nuclear waste to this location they have to truck it on Nevada roads, through Nevada neighborhoods, and by Nevada schools. A single accident would have devastating consequences to the health of the people of the State of Nevada, not to mention the economy.

Mr. Speaker, this is the most dangerous substance known to man. But there are still those in Washington trying to force it on the people of my State. One of those people is Nuclear Regulatory Commissioner Kristine Svinicki. Thankfully, her term ends on June 30. I strongly oppose the renomination of someone who puts the interests of the nuclear industry ahead of the people of the State of Nevada. And I urge my Nevada colleagues in the Senate to do everything in their power to ensure this Yucca nuclear waste pusher does not have another term.

SPACE TRAVEL IN AMERICA IS HISTORY

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the space shuttle *Discovery* flew through the blue sky over the Nation's capital on its way to its final resting place at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Virginia. The flyover was met by cheers from some but tears from others.

Space travel in America is history. Our government has chosen to abandon the space program as we know it. JFK, NASA, and America put the first man on the moon, but we have been the leader in the space race for years. Now the sun has set on American manned space travel. Now we are raising the white flag of surrender in space travel to the Russians. JFK might not approve.

Ironically, American astronauts will have to rely on an expensive ride from

the Russians just to get to the Space Station.

Former *Discovery* astronaut Dr. Anna Fisher said it well when a bright young boy asked her how he could become an astronaut one day. She said, study Russian. That ought not to be.

But that's just the way it is.

SALUTING THE ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMITTEES OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the Access to Justice Committees of the American Bar Association from States all over the Nation and, particularly, my constituents that I just met with, the chair of the Access to Justice Committee, Judge Lindsey, and a number of others who have come to join us to again emphasize that when lawyers, as myself, take our oath of office and become members of the bar, we have an obligation and a duty to public service. That public service is to ensure that every American under the Constitution has access to justice, and to insist that they're able to be represented and their legal rights protected.

I beg that this House accept the \$402 million that is the Senate mark for Access to Justice programs, and not the \$328 million that is the House mark. Shame on us if we realize that more and more laws are complex, more and more Americans suffer, more and more Americans need help, more and more Americans are under foreclosure over the years. And even though we have worked hard in this government to restore those homes, they need legal rights. Let us support the funding for Access to Justice.

SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS

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

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend I attended the Summits of the Americas, where Western Hemisphere leaders were in attendance to discuss regional policy issues and challenges. Leftist regimes repeatedly criticized the United States for our strong opposition to communist Cuba participating in the summits.

This summit is and should be reserved only for democratic nations, not totalitarian, dictatorial terrorist regimes like the Castro dictatorship. We should continue our commitment to the Cuban embargo and reiterate the importance of condemning a regime that refuses to grant its citizens the freedoms every human deserves: human rights, civil liberties, and free elections.

The illicit drug operation in our hemisphere contributes to the problem of increasing violence and terrorism in