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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

As this House adjourns in anticipation of Independence Day, we ask Your special blessing upon our Nation. We have many things to be thankful for, and ask that You send Your spirit, that we might continue to live our freedoms with responsibility and integrity. Help us to be truly grateful for what we have, and generous as well.

Bless the Members of this assembly and their families in the time they have together at home so that when they return, they are rested and energized to take on the important work that faces them concerning our economy and national security in today's world.

These have been historic days. Issues of grave importance have been decided, and much commentary and argument has ensued. Bless our Nation and its citizens, especially those whose energy and emotions are stirred, with equanimity, goodwill, and an abiding trust that, in time, our Nation will emerge into an even greater future as it has so many times before. Give us the faith to believe and increase our trust in You.

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 Nevada (Mr. HECK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HECK 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

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

OBAMACARE DECISION DISCOURAGING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

(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, yesterday's decision by the Supreme Court to uphold ObamaCare is discouraging for America's small businesses by destroying jobs and threatening families with the loss of their insurance policies.

When the President lobbied for the passage of the 2,700-page health care takeover, he promised Americans that the individual mandate was not a tax increase. Chief Justice Roberts based his opinion on his view that it is a tax increase, which contradicts the President as being incorrect.

Chief Justice Roberts and the four liberals now confirm the President has been inaccurate. Not only will this tax place more hardship on small businesses to follow the law, but already 12,000 pages of regulations have been issued with more than 150 new boards, agencies, and programs destroying jobs.

On July 11, the House of Representatives, under the leadership of JOHN

BOEHNER and ERIC CANTOR, will vote to repeal the Obama taxes. On November 6, American citizens will have the opportunity to vote for repeal and reform.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

EXPRESSING THANKS TO KRISTIE JOHNSON GREGORY FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

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

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my thanks to Kristie Johnson Gregory, who is moving on from my staff after 7 years of service to accept the position of special populations coordinator at Augusta Technical College. Kristie started as an intern in my office back in 2005, and she quickly rose up the ranks to serve as a senior constituent services representative.

Every Congressman knows just how important it is to have good staff, and Kristie is the kind of staffer that you need. Kristie and our district staff recovered some \$3.7 million in benefits wrongfully withheld from families back home in just the last year alone, and there's no telling how many homes she helped rescue from the brink of foreclosure. When you add it all up, her record is reflected in the thank you letters of grateful constituents and the appreciation of this Congressman for a job well done.

STOLEN VALOR ACT OF 2011

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

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join with me

□ 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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