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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: We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day. Please help us to use it well.

We ask Your blessing upon this assembly and upon all to whom the authority of government is given. Help them to meet their responsibilities during these days, to attend to the immediate needs and concerns of the moment, all the while, enlightened by the majesty of Your creation and Your eternal Spirit.

We give You thanks that we all can know and share the fruits of Your Spirit, especially in this time, the virtue of tolerance and reconciliation, of justice and righteousness, of goodwill and understanding, of patience and loving care for others.

Watch over this House and cause Your blessing to be upon each Member, that they might serve all the people with sincerity and truth.

May all that is done within the people's House 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 Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio 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. The Chair will entertain up to 5 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### SEQUESTRATION

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, Congress faces looming deadlines at the end of this year, set to take effect in the first days of 2013. Just as we ring in a new year with a renewed sense of optimism, if Congress does not act, looming defense cuts will cripple our military and this Nation.

Our military will be forced to cut an additional 10 percent from its budgets; an additional 10 percent of resources supporting our troops deployed overseas, fighting for our freedoms; an additional 10 percent of budgets supporting new technologies, training, and ships already lacking maintenance and which are behind schedule; an additional 10 percent of our national security.

While the House passed, and I proudly supported, legislation in May to avert these cuts, action is still needed by the Senate and the administration.

Why does Congress continue to wait? Why does Congress procrastinate on an issue so pressing and so important to this Nation? Who will answer the call?

Leaving this issue to the last minute is irresponsible, and failure is not an option. I urge the leaders of this Nation to stop the delay.

### REMEMBERING 11 ISRAELI OLYMPIANS

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, in 1972, Palestinian terrorists broke into the Israeli Olympic compound and murdered, in cold blood, 11 Israeli athletes.

In the 40 years since, shamefully, the International Olympic Committee has refused to have a minute of silence to commemorate these 11 martyrs. They have rejected it time and time again. And tomorrow, the Olympic Games are starting in London, and they have rejected it again, shamefully.

So I will use the rest of my 1-minute to do a moment of silence for the 11 Israeli athletes who lost their lives at the 1972 Olympic Games.

### FILIPINO VETERANS DAY ANNIVERSARY

(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, 71 years ago today, President Roosevelt inducted over 40,000 Filipino troops into the United States Army to counter the Japanese threat. Following the occupation of the Philippines, thousands more Filipinos would join the resistance as recognized guerrilla forces working in cooperation with the U.S. Army. However, due to the Rescissions Act of 1946, the service and sacrifice of these brave Filipino veterans would go unrecognized by the U.S. Government for the next 63 years.

Congress finally acknowledged the dedicated service of these veterans when it established the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund in 2009. Although meager in comparison to the benefits these veterans earned, this compensation fund provided the

☐ 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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