

Russell
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Stefanik
Stewart

Stivers
Stutzman
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 381

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 381.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 493, I was, unfortunately, detained and missed that rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) to inquire of the majority leader the schedule for the week to come.

Mr. MCCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday and Tuesday, no votes are expected in the House. On Wednesday, the House will meet at noon for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

On Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning hour and noon for legislative business.

On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. Last votes of the week are expected no later than 3 p.m.

Members are advised that, given the shortness of the week due to the Jewish holiday, Members should be prepared for a full legislative day on Friday.

Mr. Speaker, the House will consider a number of suspensions next week, a complete list of which will be announced by close of business today.

In addition, the House will consider H.R. 758, the Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2015, sponsored by Representative LAMAR SMITH. This bill will ensure that innocent Americans are protected against frivolous lawsuits.

Mr. Speaker, the House will also consider two measures that respond to the horrific videos released throughout the summer on Planned Parenthood practices. The first is H.R. 3134, sponsored by Representative DIANE BLACK, which places a 1-year moratorium on funding to Planned Parenthood while Congress investigates these videos.

Three committees in the House are currently looking into Planned Parenthood activities, funding, and adherence to the law.

The second will be a bill sponsored by Representative TRENT FRANKS, which adds criminal penalties to people who violate the Born Alive Act, for medical providers who fail to provide medical

care to a baby who survives the abortion procedure.

Americans are rightfully outraged by what was depicted in these videos, and Congress and the American people have a right to know exactly what is happening.

These two critical bills will ensure that we get all the facts and protect those who cannot protect themselves.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for the information.

I would just observe that we share the view of the—you used the term “horrific” videos. As I understand it, these videos are heavily edited. I don’t want to get into debate about them; we will have that debate next week, but we are certainly concerned about, as the gentleman knows, 97 percent of the health care delivered by Planned Parenthood has nothing to do with the issues raised in the video, edited or not.

We would hope that we could come to an agreement on making sure that those healthcare services that are provided to literally thousands and thousands of women are not interrupted, but I understand that we will have that debate next week.

Mr. Leader, you do not include in your schedule a continuing resolution for the funding of government. As the gentleman knows, we have essentially, as I count it, 5 full legislative days left. We have 8 or 9 days left, but there are many partial days.

We have 5 full legislative days left before the government runs out of authority and funds to continue. As the gentleman knows, I have been urging the majority leader and your side of the aisle to enter into discussions on levels of funding and funding itself.

We suspended the appropriations process approximately in the middle of July when the Interior bill was pulled from the floor. Presumably, it was pulled because there was a possibility of amendments being offered regarding the Confederate battle flag, but notwithstanding that, half the appropriation bills have not been brought to the floor. No appropriation bills have passed the Senate.

I have been urging, for at least 2 months now, that we have discussions. I discussed with Mr. VAN HOLLEN today there have been no discussions between Mr. VAN HOLLEN and Mr. PRICE with reference to a resolution of the funding levels for a CR or the length of term of the CR.

I had an opportunity to talk to Ranking Member NITA LOWEY today of the Appropriations Committee. She informs me that there have been no substantive discussions between herself and Mr. ROGERS and that Mr. ROGERS, in fact, has no indication of what funding levels will be going forward or what a CR would look like or the length of period of time it would be for.

In addition to that, I have discussed with the leader’s office, Leader PELOSI’s office—and I know that neither my office nor Leader PELOSI’s office have been in discussion either with

NOES—186

Adams
Aguilar
Ashford
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)

Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O’Rourke
Pallone
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Hahn
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takai
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

□ 1245

Mr. TAKAI changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

the Speaker's office or your office in a substantive way with how we might be moving forward on a CR.

I, frankly, thought that this coming week would be the week for us to consider a continuing resolution so that given the very, very short number of days available in September for us to meet, that there would be time for the Senate to receive a continuing resolution for us to consider that and pass it so that we would not, again, confront a crisis of confidence, a crisis in terms of ongoing government operations, but also a crisis of confidence not only in our country, but around the world that the United States of America could manage its finances in a responsible way.

With that said, Mr. Majority Leader, can you share with us some insight? Again, I know that it is not on the schedule, and this is about scheduling, but we have 5 full days and 3 partial days and a ninth day which the Pope is going to be here, and I know we will be having votes on that day, but we have such a minimal time before the government runs out of authority and funding for its operations that it seems to me that it is critical that today or tomorrow or Monday, we decide how we are going to proceed.

I will be pleased to yield to my friend, the majority leader.

Mr. McCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the gentleman knows, the fiscal year does end on September 30. As the gentleman knows, we have had this discussion often because our intention was always to solve this problem very early. As history shows, this is the earliest we have ever started the appropriation process for Congress.

I had grave concern during the summer, reading many of the headlines from some on your side of the aisle and over on your side of the aisle in the Senate, that it was a strategy to make sure the appropriation process would not work.

When votes came to the floor, very strongly, you were able to hold many of your Members. Counterpart with the number two on the Senate side, Senator SCHUMER, his whole strategy for the summer, he was much more effective where none of them came up.

We know the number of days we have left. We are continuing conversations on government funding, and we will inform Members when action is scheduled in the House.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Leader, there are 5 days—full days—left to go. You are right; we have been discussing this for some period of time, but with all due respect to any strategy that we have, you only brought six bills to the floor and passed six bills through this House, and that is only half of the appropriation bills.

The MilCon bill got 255 votes; the Energy and Water, 240; the Legislative Branch, 357; the Commerce, Justice, Science, 242; T-HUD, which we didn't like and, apparently, a lot of your

Members didn't like either, 216 votes; and the Defense bill, 278 votes.

There was nothing on our side that stopped the appropriations process from going forward. You chose not to bring six of those bills to the floor. I don't take any blame on our side of the aisle, whatever our strategy might be.

Our strategy has been consistent with, very frankly, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee strategy, and that is to have funding levels on both the defense and nondefense side of the ledger which were rational and reasonable.

I repeat ad nauseam, as you know—and you are tired of hearing me repeat it, I am sure—Mr. ROGERS' comments that the sequester levels given to the Appropriations Committee to meet their responsibilities were ill-conceived and unrealistic. That is Mr. ROGERS' quote, not mine, not our strategy.

That was what the chairman of the Appropriations Committee on your side of the aisle characterizes the funding levels that you have provided the committee for—I don't mean you individually—the House has provided the chairman with to write his bills up.

As a result of being unable to do that, every time you brought a bill to the floor, it has gotten a majority of the votes. Forget about us. We can't control. We have 188 Members. You can pass anything you want.

The appropriations bill process came to a dead halt for two reasons. Number one, it is because there are no negotiations for a well-conceived and realistic alternative to sequester. That is what HAL ROGERS says—not me—your chairman.

I continue to be extraordinarily disappointed that we have not undertaken any discussions—I mentioned Mrs. LOWEY on the Appropriations Committee, Mr. VAN HOLLEN on the Budget Committee, Leader PELOSI's office, my office—any discussions which have allowed us to come to some agreement so that we might in a bipartisan way move forward.

Now, I understand there are a lot of members on your side of the aisle who won't vote for anything if it funds Planned Parenthood. I get that. They don't come close to making the majority of this House.

□ 1300

Until such time as we start acting with the majority's will prevailing as opposed to a faction's prevailing, I think we are going to be in this gridlock that is undermining the confidence of our country, of our government, and of our international partners.

I would hope that, in the next, perhaps, few days, Mr. Leader—and I am prepared to spend time today, this weekend, Monday, and Tuesday—I know we are not coming back until Wednesday—to try to work with you and with the relevant committees, with the Speaker, and with the leader of my party to try to get us to a point

where we can do exactly what you want to do and what we want to do, and that is not have this government by crisis that we have now. This is the third time on an unrelated issue where there has been a problem with funding government as is our responsibility at whatever levels we agree upon. I would hope that we could pursue those discussions. I have been urging that for months now, and we haven't done that.

You also did not mention something that I have discussed with you and discussed with the Speaker that I bring up all the time. As a result of our failure to fund the Export-Import Bank and to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, we are losing jobs, and we have lost a substantial number of jobs already. Speaker BOEHNER indicated in a quote not too long ago that, in fact, there are thousands of jobs on the line that would disappear pretty quickly if the Ex-Im Bank were to disappear.

Essentially, in terms of new loans and new products that could be sold abroad, the Ex-Im Bank has disappeared as of July. I have had discussions with the Speaker, and I think he has been quoted publicly as saying he thought the Ex-Im Bank was, in fact, in some form, going to be considered on the floor this month.

I ask my friend, the majority leader, as it is not on the schedule, but, again, it is not as if we have months to go—we have 5 days to go—before the end of the fiscal year and that funding for the Ex-Im Bank expires. Can the gentleman tell me whether there is any possibility of that being considered within the next 5 or 8—if you want to count 8—legislative days we have left in this month?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. McCARTHY. I thank my friend for yielding.

I would not feel these colloquies were complete if I did not get this question. I admire the gentleman's consistency in asking it, but my answer remains just as consistent. There is no action scheduled in the House on Ex-Im.

Mr. HOYER. With that answer, the gentleman can be assured that I will keep asking the question, and I keep asking the question not to vex the majority leader. I keep asking the question because the Speaker and I agree that we are losing jobs. We are putting ourselves in a noncompetitive position with the rest of the world.

By not bringing this up to the floor, Mr. Leader—I haven't counted specifically, but I will bet you, however, that there are over 275 votes on this floor to pass a reauthorization and extension of the Export-Import Bank. The failure to bring it to the floor is not because it doesn't enjoy a majority of support—it does. When it last came to the floor—when Mr. Cantor and I worked on the legislation and brought it to this floor—it got well over 300 votes. Now, I understand there are some in your party who don't like it; but, very frankly, we have got to get over, because some in your party don't like

things, that we gridlock the Congress of the United States and make America uncompetitive and undermine confidence in this country.

Yes, Mr. Leader, you are very tolerant, and I will keep asking the question because I think it is critical for our economy, and it is critical to get us off this gridlock where a small minority of the Congress of the United States is holding good policy hostage.

Now, let me also ask you: On October 29, the highway bill will lose its authorization, which we have been extending in very short periods of time. The gentleman knows no Governor, no mayor, no county commissioner, no contractor can possibly plan infrastructure improvements—highways, bridges, sewer systems, whatever—on the basis of 90-day or 60-day extensions of authority and funding.

The gentleman didn't mention it. It is not coming up next week. I understand that we have a longer time—but not a long time—between now and October 29 when the highway bill will expire. As the gentleman, I am sure, knows and agrees, the failure to do that will have a significant adverse effect on jobs for Americans and a significant adverse effect on the infrastructure of this country.

Can the gentleman tell me whether or not he expects a highway bill to come to the floor anytime within the timeframe prior to October 29?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. MCCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the gentleman did mention, the highway program is currently authorized through the end of October. The relevant committees are at work—I met with them today—developing the best path forward, and I will keep you apprised, as well as the Members, and I expect it to be done before the deadline.

Mr. HOYER. That is good news that the highway bill, at least, will be done before the deadline.

I will tell my friend, like the majority leader, I had a discussion today with Mr. DEFAZIO, who is the ranking Democrat on the relevant committee, Mr. SHUSTER being the chairman. I know they have had some discussions, but I also know that they are not very close to an agreement. I know that neither one of them likes the Senate bill that was sent to us. The majority leader and I had discussions on that. We didn't take that up. I thought that was probably the right thing for the majority leader to do, to not take it up.

Again, the majority leader says he is engaged. I would hope he uses his good office to get us to a place where we can pass a bill in a bipartisan fashion as, during my 34 years, has normally been the case. That extends for a significant period of time—no less than 5 years—at levels that are necessary to meet the infrastructure needs of this country, both from an economic standpoint and a national security standpoint.

I yield to my friend if he wants to say anything further. If not, Mr.

Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2015, TO TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015; AND HOUR OF MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2015; and, further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at noon on Wednesday, September 16, 2015, for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

(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, I rise today in recognition of National Suicide Prevention Week.

Unfortunately, in the past several years, we have witnessed an increase in suicides among our Active-Duty members of the Armed Forces and our veterans populations.

Prior to my tenure in Congress, I served nearly three decades addressing the mental health needs of individuals who have suffered life-changing disease and disability. This is an issue I remain passionate about, particularly when addressing the mental health of those who place their lives on the line in serving this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I remain confident this body can do right by our servicemembers and veterans. A part of that is advancing the Medical Evaluation Parity for Servicemembers Act, which is intended to improve suicide prevention by instituting a mental health assessment for all new military recruits, which will then be used as a baseline throughout their military careers. This was included in the 2016 National Defense Authorization.

Our dedication to this cause is the least we can do for those who have sacrificed so much for their Nation.

COMMEMORATING THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN LOST ON 9/11

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the brave men and women lost on September 11.

Last week, I visited a windswept meadow in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, just outside my district, which,

until 14 years ago, had little meaning for this country.

At 10 a.m. that day, the quiet of that field was shattered as 40 Americans successfully thwarted an attack on the Nation's capital. They, like 2,700 other individuals that day, lost their lives as a result of acts of raw evil. Quiet has returned to that field, but, today, there exists at the site a memorial and a new visitor center that opened yesterday.

I visited the site last week, and it amazed me how fresh the memories of that horrible day remain. The remembrances are unforgettable, from the timeline embedded within the walk that follows Flight 93's path—8:46 a.m., 9:03 a.m., 9:37 a.m.—to the words of the passengers from phone calls that were made that day.

Let's draw inspiration from the brave sacrifices made by so many Americans that day; and let's, today, renew the commitment we all felt in the days after September 11 to reinvigorate, heal, and strengthen our Nation.

IRAN DEAL

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

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, on this day, the 14th anniversary of the terrible attack of 9/11/2001, I rise to strongly oppose the deeply flawed, dangerous, and unacceptable deal that President Obama has struck with the Islamic Republic of Iran and its leader, Ayatollah Khamenei. To even stand here in the people's House of the greatest nation on Earth and discuss this course of action taken by the President is both shameful and embarrassing for our country.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is the world's leading sponsor of terrorism. They have the blood of thousands of American soldiers on their hands. They lead chants of "death to America," whom they call the Great Satan, and burn our flag in their streets. They declared just last week, with certainty, that Israel, whom they call the Little Satan, will be wiped off the map in no less than 25 years. This plan allows Iran to build a nuclear bomb in no less than 15 years. You do the math.

The President's deal with a terrorist nation allows them to continue their nuclear program and gives them over \$150 billion to fund worldwide terrorism.

A vote for this deal, with all of its dire implications for the future of our children and grandchildren, could well be the most regrettable vote that a Member of Congress will ever take in his career.

FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

(Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of