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No. 190

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 12, 2011.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF DENHAM to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

We ask Your blessing as we approach the end of the first session of this 112th Congress. You know well the contentiousness of this session. Look into the hearts of all the Members of this people's House to discern the goodwill within. May the goodwill You find be rewarded with Your grace. May any contrary spirit be banished.

In the days that come, help each Member to understand well and interpret positively, as they are able, the positions of those with whom they disagree. Grant to each the wisdom of Solomon, and to us all the faith and confidence to know that no matter how difficult things appear to be, You continue to walk with our Nation, as You have done for over two centuries.

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

Amen.

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.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. CLYBURN 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 9, 2011.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 9, 2011 at 10:02 a.m.:

That the Senate concur in the House of Representatives amendment to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 22.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2061.

That the Senate passed S. 1974.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 86.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM PRINCIPAL ENGINEER, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Grant Scherling, Principal Engineer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

□ 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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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, December 8, 2011.

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 issued by the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for testimony in a civil case.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

GRANT SCHERLING,
Principal Engineer,

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1615

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM) at 4 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

PERMISSION TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1540, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers on the part of the House have until midnight tonight, December 12, to file the conference report to accompany H.R. 1540.

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

There was no objection.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE BREAST CANCER RESEARCH AUTHORITY ACT

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 384) to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a

semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 384

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF POSTAGE STAMP FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH.

Section 414(h) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking "2011" and inserting "2015".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, Senate bill 384, introduced by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN from the great State of California, would extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue semipostal stamps to raise funds for breast cancer research. The bill enjoys cosponsorship on both sides of the aisle; 66 Senators have cosponsored it, and my committee has voted it out unanimously. Senate bill 384 is very simple yet important that we pass, and pass before the end of the year. Senate bill 384 will allow the United States Postal Service to continue to sell special postage stamps that generate funds used for breast cancer research.

In 1997 President Clinton signed Public Law 105-41, known as the Stamp Out Breast Cancer Act. The law authorizes the Postal Service to sell, for the first time, a special semipostal stamp for first-class mail. Under the law, the United States Postal Service sells this stamp at a price that is above the standard first-class mail rate. Buyers willingly buy this, knowing that this is helping stamp out breast cancer.

After accounting for administrative costs, the Postal Service then transfers surplus funds to the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense for breast cancer research. Today the sale of each 55 cent stamp generates 11 cents to go toward breast cancer research. Since being offered to the public in 1998, nearly 925 million—that's right, 1 billion—of these stamps have been sold, and over \$74 million of proceeds have been transferred to the NIH and the Department of Defense for breast cancer research.

I would like to thank my colleague, the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. CUMMINGS, and my colleague here today, Mr. CLAY, for championing this bill and its reauthoriza-

tion. I would also like to thank Senator FEINSTEIN for her work in moving this bill in the other Chamber in a timely fashion.

The authorization for this stamp expires on December 31. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we act and act today if we are, in fact, going to continue to help the more than 2.5 million women currently living with breast cancer nationwide and the over 200,000 women diagnosed with this disease each year in our country. The funds generated from this stamp are greatly needed. Each dollar raised for research increases the likelihood that more people will become cancer survivors rather than cancer statistics.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote for the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1620

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I'm pleased to rise in support of S. 384, along with my chairman, Mr. ISSA of California, of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee. I want to thank him for bringing this legislation to the floor.

This bill, S. 384, will extend the authority of the U.S. Postal Service to issue the popular semipostal stamp that helps to raise funds for breast cancer research. The measure before us, S. 384, is sponsored by our Senate colleague, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, and here in the House, Representative JOE BACA, also from California, who introduced the companion version of this legislation.

Cancer is one of the scourges of our society, and this is a truly bipartisan bill that makes a huge difference in a cost-efficient manner. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill without reservation. This will allow the American people to continue contributing to the fight against breast cancer and cancer in general for another 4 years. I urge passage of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for S. 384, legislation that reauthorizes the semi-postal breast cancer research stamp for four additional years.

I want to thank my friend, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, for sponsoring this bill.

I am proud to serve as lead sponsor on H.R. 466, the counterpart legislation for S. 384, that was introduced here in the House of Representatives.

The breast cancer research stamp has been of critical importance in the battle against breast cancer—both in raising awareness of the diseases, and raising tens of millions of dollars for important research activities.

Since 1998, the U.S. Postal Service has sold over 903 million "semi-postal" breast cancer research stamps.

The sale of these stamps has resulted in over \$72 million being raised that has gone directly to supporting breast cancer research at the National Institute of Health.