
ON WATCH IN WASHINGTON

Intercessors for America's PRAYER ALERT

March 16, 2011

Natural / Nuclear Disaster

JAPAN'S EARTHQUAKE PROMPTS CALL FOR U.S. REACTOR REVIEW

Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.), a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, urged the administration to consider imposing a moratorium on siting new nuclear reactors in seismically active areas until safety and emergency response reviews have been completed. He is also calling for a safety review of 31 reactors in the U.S. that are of the same design as those in Fukushima. Apart from natural catastrophes, he wrote in a letter to President Obama on Sunday, "a nuclear disaster could also come from terrorists: al-Qaeda considered crashing a plane into a nuclear reactor during the 9/11 attacks and a man was arrested on February 24, 2011 for planning to target reactors. The seriousness of this threat is beyond question."

Energy and Commerce Committee chairman Rep. Fred Upton (R-Mich.), said the committee would carefully assess the situation in Japan. "The details of this tragedy are still unfolding," he said in a statement. "The head of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is scheduled to testify before the Energy and Commerce Committee next week [on March 16], and we will use that opportunity to explore what is known in the early aftermath of the damage to Japanese nuclear facilities, as well as to reiterate our unwavering commitment to the safety of U.S. nuclear sites." (CNSNews.com)

Read [more](#). (Information provided courtesy of Capitol Hill Prayer Partners)

SEE ALSO: [WILL JAPAN'S QUAKE CAUSE TREMORS IN U.S. NUCLEAR INVESTMENT?](#)

After the disaster in Japan, it is certainly wise to revisit the status of our reactors here in the continental United States. Pray that this committee will convene quickly, and that only true data (not "skewed" data) would be presented regarding the safety of our own reactors. The time to act on this is now. Pray for the people of Japan – for comfort, provision, protection, recovery and healing.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you." (Psalm 32:8)

Government Spending

CONTINUING RESOLUTION BILL WOULD SLASH \$6 BILLION

House Appropriations Committee Chairman Hal Rogers, R-Ky., released a proposed three week Continuing Resolution early Friday afternoon. The [short-term budget measure passed yesterday](#) in the House and now heads to the Senate where it is also expected to pass. This bill would slash \$6 billion and would keep the government operating past March 19 – the end of the current Continuing Resolution —

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and into early April. The cuts will include unused census money, earmarks, and terminations of programs to which the White House previously agreed. There will also be a cut to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. When asked about concerns from freshmen who say they won't vote for another CR and want a fight now, Rogers says "We're listening to everyone and trying to understand their concerns." ([Capitol Hill Prayer Partners](#) and The Christian Coalition of America)

SEE ALSO: "[Obama's Social Security Hoax](#)" ([National Review Online](#))

UPDATE: PENCE AMENDMENT REJECTED BY SENATE

The Senate rejected, on a 44-56 vote, the House-approved long-term budget bill that contains the Pence Amendment de-funding the Planned Parenthood abortion business. Lawmakers needed 60 votes to pass the bill under the rules of the Senate and did not come close to the number needed to do so.

The senate voted on H.R. 1, the long-term Continuing Resolution the House approved in February that contains the Pence Amendment and pro-life riders that reinstates the Mexico City Policy, stops abortion funding in the District of Columbia, and de-funds the pro-abortion UNFPA, which works hand-in-hand with Chinese population control officials who use forced abortions to enforce the one-child policy. . . ([Christian Coalition of America](#))

Thank God for even incremental progress in fixing our spending problem as we inch closer to a final spending plan for fiscal year 2011. Pray for increasing boldness of our leaders to genuinely fix our fiscal problems. May our leaders not see this as a matter of meeting half-way between party spending plans, but meeting at least half way between where we are now and where we need to be to fix our problem. Pray that the Lord will teach us how to not be a debtor society, but a people owing nothing but our love. Thank God for the great work of the House before President's Day. May that be the beginning of the pruning of our United States budget for HIS honor and glory. Pray that the work would be sealed and made effective in this nation.

"By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. The wise prevail through great power, and those who have knowledge muster their strength." (Psalm 24:3-5)

Israel

FAMILY STABBED TO DEATH ON THE WEST BANK

The [five members of the Israeli family stabbed to death at Itamar](#) on the West Bank, Friday night, March 11, have been identified as Udi Vogel, 38, the father; his wife Ruth Vogel, 35, their sons Yoav, 11 and Elad, 3 and their four-month old daughter Hadas. The three children who survived are Roi, 8, Yishai, 2 and their sister Tamar, aged 12, who found the victims when she arrived home later that night. The crime was easier to perpetrate against Jews living in the West Bank town as several IDF checkpoints have been disbanded, allowing terrorists to attack Jews more easily. Hamas Websites hailed the murder as a "heroic operation," without taking responsibility. (DEBKAFfile Special Report; source provided by Capitol Hill Prayer Partners)

Intercede that many will be saved through this tragedy that is speculated to begin perhaps the next Intifada among Arabs, specifically those of the Wahhabbi, Hamas and Fatah (former PLO). Pray that Benjamin Netanyahu will have God's wisdom to deal with this offense against his people, and that Mahmoud Abbas will have shame that he is using this to double speak to Israelis that Fatah is sorry this family was murdered, while telling Hamas they did a good job. Pray for little Tamar, the twelve-year old daughter who found the bodies of her parents, Udi and Ruth and her 11-year old brother Yoav, three-year old brother Elad and four-month old sister, Hadas. May she be a comfort and big sister to her siblings Roi and Yishai who also survived the killings. May

the blood that is on the hands of their murderers never wash out and may it convict them to ask the LORD for forgiveness while there is still time. May this turn the nation of Israel to God for their Hope and Salvation.

"I am the Lord, and there is no other; there is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me. That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting that there is none besides Me. I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things." (Isaiah 45: 5-7)

Immigration

Current law forbids an individual from receiving Social Security payments if they are here illegally, but their entire work history – even work done as an illegal alien – can count toward Social Security benefits if the individual later becomes a legal resident. Congressman Forbes cosponsored the No Social Security for Illegal Immigrants Act (H.R.787), which aims to correct that problem by forbidding work done as an illegal immigrant from being counted toward future benefits. ([Office of Congressman Randy Forbes](#))

Pray for wisdom in the passage of this bill.

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." (James 1:5)

Radical Islam

UPDATE ON KING'S ISLAM HEARINGS AND RADICALIZATION IN THE U.S.

The first of Rep. Peter King's (R-NY) hearings in the House Homeland Security Committee on radicalization within the American Muslim community is over. Liberty is still flourishing. There were no reports of Muslims being dragged from their homes or mosques by angry mobs incited to violence. There is no effort to restrict immigration from Muslim countries. No internment camps are being constructed. The Washington Post's Ruth Marcus defended the hearing citing "the unavoidable fact is that, however much violent terror reflects a distortion of the tenets of Islam, it is not only practiced by adherents of the religion but practiced in its name."

Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA) used part of his time during yesterday's hearings to warn about the radicalization of young Muslims that is taking place in his northern Virginia district. Rep. Wolf recounted six examples, including: Ahmed Omar Abu Ali, the 1999 valedictorian of the Islamic Saudi Academy, now serving a life sentence for plotting the assassination of President George W. Bush; the arrest in Pakistan of five Muslim American teenagers from Fairfax County, Virginia, who attempted to join jihadist groups; and Zachary Chesser, a graduate of Oakton High School, who was arrested last year for trying to join a Somali-based jihadi group....

[CLICK HERE](#) to read more from Gary Bauer (Source: [Capitol Hill Prayer Partners](#)).

Pray that the U.S. would hear voices of truth like these more often. May more voices like these be heard from the White House and on the evening news across our land. Pray that the Lord would help the United States with problems concerning radicalization. May we become fervent in spirit for God's Word and His truth. May it shine forth brightly, and may darkness not overtake our land. Intercede that our children may be firmly grounded in God's Word and doctrine. May we live in Jesus' name.

"He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" (Matthew 11:15)