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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our guide, we yield our day, our plans, our wills to Your counsel. How much better is Your grace plan than anything we could create on our own? How much more valuable even than gold is Your wisdom? To have insight to Your understanding is better even than silver.

May our minds, our hearts, our ears be open to discern Your guidance today. You set before each of us trusted instruments of Your own divine counsel: staff directors and assistants, legal counselors, clerks and protocol experts, public affairs directors, all sorts of people who devote their time and talent to the success of this congressional process.

Speak clearly through them that we would hear. Stop us in our tracks if we head the wrong direction. Direct our steps that we would walk in Your will for our lives.

Remind us that our plans fail when we choose not to receive Your counsel. Give us the wisdom to heed the guidance You offer from all those whom You place in our path this day. Hear our prayers as we listen for Your voice. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

COVERUP AT ROBB ELEMENTARY

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. And I rise today to call upon the Governor of the State of Texas to denounce the coverup by the pusillanimous peace officers at Robb Elementary.

If you have seen that video and it does not tug at your heart, you need help. I stand with those parents who are suffering. It is time for us to get to the bottom of what happened at that elementary school. The Governor laid the foundation at his initial press conference for the coverup that has taken place.

Governor, we are going to hold you accountable. You can't allow such things to happen without denouncing them, at minimum, and there may be more that you can do. Use all of your powers, Governor, to bring justice to the families who are suffering.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CORREA). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 3470. An act to provide for the implementation of certain trafficking in contracting provisions, and for other purposes.

RETURN TO AMERICAN ENERGY DOMINANCE

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week, while gas prices remain near record levels across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, President Biden has chosen to spend his time meeting with Saudi Arabia instead of American energy producers.

By canceling the Keystone XL pipeline, and by refusing to allow new drilling leases here in the U.S., the current administration has declared a war on American energy. Instead of using cleaner and less expensive American energy, President Biden is now turning to OPEC to drill the oil that we so desperately need.

Because of skyrocketing inflation, American families are spending an extra \$5,000 a year on everyday items. Right now, Americans are pulling up to the gas pump, and after filling their tank, they don't have money to buy their kids lunch.

To get our Nation back on track, we need to rely on American energy, not Saudi Arabia. We need to unleash American energy, and we need to return to American energy dominance.

STRIPPING AWAY WOMEN'S RIGHTS

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of women and their fundamental rights to reproductive healthcare.

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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While MAGA Republicans want to rip away women's rights, House Democrats remain committed to standing with women. We trust women.

For a second time, we will vote to pass the Women's Health Protection Act to make the protections of Roe v. Wade the law of the land once again. House Democrats will also pass the Ensuring Women's Right to Reproductive Freedom Act, which will prevent Republicans from suing or fining women who travel across State lines to obtain an abortion.

Trusting women to make their own personal healthcare decisions is what we believe as Democrats. Controlling women and stripping away their rights is what they are as Republicans.

Democrats won't give up the fight. We stand with women. We trust women.

WOODY'S LEGACY LIVES ON

(Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the World War II Medal of Honor recipient, West Virginia native Woody Williams, my dear friend.

Woody was West Virginia's hero, and he was America's hero. He truly embodied what it meant to be part of the Greatest Generation.

Today, he will lie in honor in the United States Capitol. I can think of no better way to honor Woody's life and legacy, as well as the memory of all of the World War II veterans, than allowing him this privilege.

Woody will be sorely missed, but his legacy of service, dedication, and patriotism will live on in countless lives that he touched.

ERASING 50 YEARS OF PRECEDENT

(Mrs. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as our Nation begins to grapple with the fall of Roe v. Wade.

Twenty days ago, the Supreme Court erased 50 years of precedent, ending the freedom for women to have the right to choose.

Already, the devastating effects are becoming very clear: State legislatures are criminalizing women and healthcare providers, pregnant cancer patients who cannot get the treatment they need to survive, a 10-year-old rape victim forced to travel across State lines to access the abortion she needs.

It is horrific. But make no mistake, these stories are the result of a radical Republican agenda, and these are the stories that Republicans refuse to acknowledge. We must call them out.

This is an extremely difficult, personal decision, but I trust that women can make that choice, and I will do everything in my power to protect that right to choose.

INFLATION HITS A 40-YEAR HIGH

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

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just this week June's inflation numbers hit a 40-year high at 9.1 percent, and average hourly earnings hit a new low.

Instead of providing relief for American families and job creators, Democrats are working on new tax increases. Amidst a potential economic recession and rampant inflation, this tax hike will crush Main Street America, impacting 88,000 businesses just in Texas alone.

As a small business owner for over 50 years, I can tell you that Democrats' out-of-touch policies are making it harder to operate a business. Inflation is making it more expensive to purchase goods and make ends meet, and Democrats' tax hike will further cut the operating margins, making it harder to grow and compete.

While the economy is struggling, we should be cutting taxes, not raising taxes. We must put an end to the Democrats' tax-and-spend agenda and focus on building a stronger Main Street. Bottom line is, we need businesspeople in Washington.

In God we trust.

HONORING DR. MAY EDWARD CHINN

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the life and legacy of Harlem's very own Dr. May Edward Chinn, a pioneer Black female physician in New York City.

Dr. Chinn was the first Black woman to graduate from Bellevue Hospital's Medical College in 1926, which is now known as New York University's Grossman School of Medicine. She is also the first Black woman to complete an internship at Harlem Hospital in 1928.

Dr. Chinn dedicated her life to serving others. Through her determination and hard work, she helped advance medical treatments for cancer screening that continue to save lives today.

Like many of her predecessors, Dr. Chinn persisted and persevered. I am grateful to the Harlem Cultural Archives for its research to share this story, and I am honored to share the story of one of Harlem's gems so that her work does not go unnoticed and her legacy does not remain anonymous.

WE MUST ADDRESS IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in my district a couple weeks ago there were 53 migrants found cooked to death in the back of a trailer.

The Biden border crisis has continued to spiral out of control.

If this body will not take notice now, when will it ever take notice?

Out of those 53 migrants, half of them were from Mexico, half of them were from Guatemala, and a few others were from surrounding areas.

This crisis continues to spiral. It continues to get worse. It is over 100 degrees in Texas today, and no one seems to care. No one seems to notice. Regardless of their legal status, these people are oftentimes seeking economic freedom, and yet they are dying in the back of trailers because no one in this body will address immigration reform and border security.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH FREEDOM

(Ms. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, extremists have waged an all-out war against reproductive health freedom, and American bodies are being used as political battlegrounds to advance their radical agenda.

Since Roe v. Wade was overturned, Americans have overwhelmingly voiced their opposition, and we must not ignore them. I am determined to defend reproductive healthcare rights of millions of Americans from all racial and socioeconomic backgrounds, and I implore my colleagues to join me in the fight.

A post-Roe America sets our country's five decades of progress backward and threatens the health of marginalized communities who already face systemic barriers to accessing healthcare. Extremists have proven they will not stop until they have criminalized Americans for their right to take ownership of their reproductive health.

It is time that we make Roe the law of the land.

I urge our colleagues across the aisle to prioritize the will of the people and undo this grave injustice and protect it from being overturned in the future.

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BIDEN'S MULTIEMPLOYER UNION BAILOUT

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker: "We turned a promise broken into a promise kept." That is what President Biden said to union members and retirees about his bailout of union-run multiemployer pension plans.

These plans need reform. But instead of reform, we got a bailout. Is this really a promise kept?

The most recent bailout will disburse \$90 billion to multiemployer pension plans. This is a short-term fix, one that fails to address the possibility of future