

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. ALFORD 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill and agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 7454. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

H. Con. Res. 93. Concurrent Resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 992) "An Act to amend the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 to designate the Texas and New Mexico portions of the future Interstate-designated segments of the Port-to-Plains Corridor as Interstate Route 27, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 118th Congress:

The Senator from Texas (Mr. Cornyn) (Administrative Co-Chair).

The Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. Fischer) (Co-Chair).

The Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. Lankford) (Co-Chair).

The Senator from Florida (Mr. Rubio).

The Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Graham).

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. Wicker).

The Senator from Idaho (Mr. Risch).

The Senator from Utah (Mr. Romney).

The Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Ricketts).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING PENNSYLVANIA 4-H MEMBERS

(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 to recognize the Pennsylvania 4-H members who received the Diamond Clover Award at the recent 4-H State Leadership Conference.

4-H is a youth development program under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The program's main goal is to educate our Nation's youth on pivotal skills and responsibilities to develop them into outstanding citizens.

As chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, I am enlightened to see the work of USDA's programs paying the way for youth.

In total, there were 24 Diamond Clover Award winners from 13 counties across Pennsylvania. I am especially proud to say that out of those 13 counties, 3 of them are from my district, Pennsylvania 15.

Special congratulations to Hannah Trigg from Centre County, Phaedra Bower from Clinton County, and Crystal Clark from Potter Country.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all of them on their hard work and this recognition. I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

U.S. MUST USE ITS LEVERAGE TO GET HUMANITARIAN AID INTO GAZA

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, we cannot ignore the suffering happening in Gaza. Children are dying of malnutrition. There is no food, no clean water, no medicine, and over 2 million people are starving in desperate need of help.

The October 7 attack by Hamas against innocent Israeli civilians and the taking of hostages are horrific crimes, but I am horrified by Prime Minister Netanyahu's response. His government's actions against civilians in Gaza are intolerable and wrong.

U.S. law says no aid shall be furnished under the Foreign Assistance Act or the Arms Export Control Act to any country that: "... restricts, directly or indirectly, the transport or delivery of United States humanitarian assistance."

Mr. Speaker, I would say to President Biden that if the Netanyahu government continues to keep humanitarian aid from entering Gaza at the scale required to meet the needs of the people of Gaza, then you must, Mr. President, use the full leverage of U.S. law to get the trucks rolling again. The lives of millions are counting on you.

BIDEN'S DISASTROUS BORDER POLICY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, President Biden is going to be in this Chamber in just a few hours. I am going to hope for a positive outcome on this in that up to this point the border policy that he and his administration have put in place has been disastrous.

Of late, he has been blaming Republicans for that, for not passing a really bad idea that has come out of the Senate. Well, we have taken responsibility. We passed H.R. 2 very early in this session and sent it over to the Senate where Mr. SCHUMER has ignored it.

I hope the President will call on Mr. SCHUMER and the Democratic Senators to take that bill up over there and have the really strong reform on border strengthening that we need.

If they don't, there are still eight actions right here the President could be doing: end catch and release, reinstate remain in Mexico, and six other ideas that actually were in place when President Trump was in charge that he rescinded on day one.

He could do this with the stroke of a pen, without Congress having to fight over a partisan deal about how to figure this out with legislation.

President Biden could do this. I hope that tonight instead of blaming Republicans, he will take action and use his pen to put these constitutional pieces back in place.

CELEBRATING BRIDGESTONE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Bridgestone, one of the largest industrial employers in Wilson County, North Carolina, is celebrating 50 years.

The facility manufactures passenger and light-truck tires. There are 1,900 employees at this site. The facility is rated number one globally in 19-inch tire production. It has received several certifications and awards, including the Rising Star in the North Carolina Department of Labor's Carolina Star Program and the International Sustainability and Carbon Certification PLUS.

Eastern North Carolina is most grateful to each of the hardworking team members at this essential facility.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Bridgestone on a job well done in reaching this remarkable milestone. I wish them a happy 50th anniversary.

ALL LIFE IS PRECIOUS

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

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, as someone who started my family with IVF, I understand how critical it is to so many families that want to have children.

I believe all life is precious.

Like many Americans, I am pro-life with exceptions for rape, incest, and the health and life of the mother.

For years, political opponents have misrepresented my view, but families in my district know where I stand.

Nothing is more pro-life than helping families have children, and I do not support Federal restrictions on IVF.

A recent court ruling prompted confusion about whether the Life At Conception Act bans IVF.

I am removing myself from the bill because it could create confusion about my support for the blessings of having children through IVF.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 431

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 431. I have been and always will be pro-life.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is granted.

MAUI 911 CALL CENTER

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, when things go wrong, when disaster strikes, the first call most of us will make is 911.

On August 8, 2023, dispatchers at Maui's 911 call center were the ones that answered over 4,500 callers as they called in about the wildfires that were tearing through the island.

Through it all, our Maui dispatchers were the first responders who answered the call. Many of them were desperately waiting to hear from their own loved ones, some of whom did not make it.

They operated under incredible stress, absorbing the panic and terror of the callers, providing comfort and direction. There is no doubt in my mind that on that fateful day they saved lives.

Last week, Maui's call center team received the 2023 Outstanding Call Center Award from the Next Gen 911 Institute. They are "Maui Strong," and they represent the very best of us.

All those who answer the call when we need them most deserve to be recognized for what they truly are—first responders. That is why I am proud to cosponsor the bipartisan 911 SAVES Act led by Representatives NORMA TORRES and BRIAN FITZPATRICK.

In honor of all of our dispatchers, it is our turn to answer the call and pass the 911 SAVES Act.

CRIMINAL ILLEGAL ALIENS

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, the White House is attempting to downplay the threat that the wide-open southern border presents to our national security. This follows the tragic death of Georgia nursing student, Laken Riley. Investigators say she was killed by an illegal immigrant who was paroled into this country in 2022.

The House Homeland Security Committee found that 600,000 nondetained criminal illegal aliens are in the country. Let me repeat that. We have more than 600,000 illegal immigrants with criminal convictions or pending charges in the United States.

In a 2021 memo, DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas wrote to the staff: "The fact that an individual is a removable noncitizen should not alone be the basis of an enforcement action against them."

The Biden administration must end this deadly catch and release scheme. It is time to close the border so that overwhelmed border officials have the manpower to deport these criminals. American lives are depending on it.

ROBBINSVILLE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Robbinsville High School wrestling team for winning the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's 1A team tournament title for the first time in the school's history.

The Robbinsville Black Knights defeated their opponent by 10 points, ending their opponent's 4-year winning streak.

Senior and four-time State champion Kage Williams was awarded Most Outstanding Wrestler of the tournament and broke the program win record with 169 career victories.

It was also a banner year for longtime coach, David Haney. Coach Haney has been with Robbinsville since 1978 and is now taking a well-deserved retirement after this season.

Each Black Knight on the team made important contributions to a historic State championship, all under the experienced leadership of Coach Haney.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Black Knights. They have made western North Carolina proud.

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HONORING THE MEMORY OF LAKEN RILEY

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I sadly rise today in support of H.R. 7511, the

Laken Riley Act, and to honor the namesake of this legislation.

Laken Hope Riley was a beautiful soul taken too soon from her loving family by an illegal migrant who was detained and then released back into our country in 2022.

As a young nursing student, Laken brought joy to everyone around her as she pursued her passion of helping people. She had so much potential and so much life to live. My prayers are with her family as they mourn the loss of her light in this world.

If not for our open borders and catch and release protocols, Laken, and many other innocent Americans who were murdered by illegal immigrants, would be alive today. It is time to secure our border and end these destructive policies now.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 7511 and to continue fighting to ensure no other family has to bury their child due to Biden's preventable crisis.

BULGARIA STANDS WITH DEMOCRACY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on March 3, the Republic of Bulgaria celebrated National Day. Yesterday, with Co-Chairman BRAD SCHNEIDER, the Bulgarian Caucus hosted a reception recognizing 120 years of diplomatic relations with America. We appreciate Bulgarian Ambassador Georgi Panayotov.

On June 10, 1990, I observed, with the International Republican Institute, the first post-communist Bulgarian election. I was hosted by Professor Stefan Stoyanov, who was elected to the National Assembly and later reinstated Rotary Clubs across Bulgaria.

This is the 20th anniversary of Bulgarian admission to NATO. Now, Bulgaria has equaled American per capita aid to Ukraine in the war of dictators with rule of gun invading democracies with rule of law.

We welcome Sweden to NATO today, reinforcing peace through strength.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues, moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws. We need to enforce existing laws. Biden shamefully opens borders for dictators, as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as warned by the FBI.

MCCLAIN STANDS WITH THE FARMERS

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

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the thankless few, the ones who wake up each morning at