

haven't written anything down on paper.

The American people not only need a plan, but what they need is help and relief. In this time of global inflation, in this time that is coming, it is long overdue for Congress to act.

#### 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 33 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

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

Holy God, we pause to consider Your gracious invitation to enter into this day, and to live it understanding that we are Your beloved children.

Help us to see that this is not merely an invitation but a privilege, an honor, to discover that this is a day You have made for us to enjoy and employ. For with that privilege comes responsibility, the ability to respond to Your grace by responding with grace as we are able to the needs of others.

As Your children we are favored to have a relationship with You, established in Your righteousness and compassion. From that relationship, may we learn to bring the justice and mercy You have shown us, into all that we do.

Guide us then in the way You would have us go and grant us wisdom and discernment in our work, that the direction we take and the decisions we make would lead us ever closer to the peace and freedom You desire for all Your people.

In the strength of Your word we pray.  
Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### RECOGNIZING APPLEWOLD, PENNSYLVANIA

(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 Applewold, Pennsylvania, a tiny borough located along the Allegheny River across from Kittanning in Armstrong County.

Applewold is celebrating 125 years of being incorporated on Saturday, June 1.

While Applewold has officially been a borough for 125 years, it has had a front row seat for American history: playing a pivotal role in the Battle of Kittanning during the French and Indian War, witnessing the Pennsylvania Canal Kittanning Extension, and welcoming the railroad years later.

To celebrate this momentous anniversary, Applewold is celebrating in style with a parade and various speakers to mark the occasion.

Mr. Speaker, Applewold is a small but mighty municipality. In fact, based upon the last Census, the population is 344 people residing in 219 houses. It is our small boroughs like Applewold that make our district, our Commonwealth, and our country so great. Their enthusiasm to share their history allows us to keep telling stories of our past.

Congratulations to Applewold Borough on this anniversary.

#### BUFFALO BANDITS

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the National Lacrosse League's Buffalo Bandits who just won their second league championship in a row over the weekend, in a 15-13 win over the Albany FireWolves, completing a sweep of the playoffs and winning their ninth game in a row.

On the bench, they were led by their head coach, Bandits legend John Tavares, among the greatest players to ever take the field in the NLL.

On the field, Josh Byrne, league MVP, led the way with 9 points in the championship game and 135 points throughout the season.

Other standouts this season include Dhane Smith, with 134 points, Chris Cloutier with 68 points, and Chase Fraser with 57 points.

This back-to-back championship is the Bandits' sixth in franchise history, putting them in a first place league-wide tie for the most titles, and hopefully setting an example for our other beloved teams, the Buffalo Bills and the Buffalo Sabres.

We congratulate the Bandits and thank them for, once again, making Buffalo and western New York proud.

#### FOREST MANAGEMENT

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, our forests are in crisis, and we must act with urgency on managing them and making them more fireproof.

In the past few years, for example, my district in northern California has seen the devastating effects of wildfires, from the Camp fire in 2018 where 85 people lost their lives, and the Dixie fire which consumed 1 million acres.

They are not just statistics. They represent real people, homes lost, and entire towns disappeared.

Yet funding alone is not going to be enough. We need more tools, we need more authorities, and we need categorical exclusions that will help move us into the forest more quickly, more broadly, and more effectively.

Pace and scale need to be dramatically increased, especially on Federal forest lands.

The 2024 farm bill promotes active forest management; yes, the farm bill, because USDA has the Forest Service aspect in that bill, as well. We need to do much acceleration of the process. We don't want to continue to see the West burn year after year. We need to put the jobs back in the forests where we used to have them 40 and 50 years ago.

The 2024 farm bill will enhance our ability to manage forests proactively, reduce fuel loads, and put people back to work in the West.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Illinois) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 20, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
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 May 20, 2024, at 1:55 p.m.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 109.

Appointment: United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,  
Acting Clerk.

#### 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, May 20, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
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, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on May 20, 2024, at 3:07 p.m., said to contain a message from the President regarding the Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to the Stabilization of Iraq.

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,  
Acting Clerk of the House.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL  
EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO  
THE STABILIZATION OF IRAQ—  
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC.  
NO. 118-143)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003—as modified in scope and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13290 of March 20, 2003, Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, Executive Order 13350 of July 29, 2004, Executive Order 13364 of November 29, 2004, Executive Order 13438 of July 17, 2007, and Executive Order 13668 of May 27, 2014—is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2024.

Obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in the country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 with respect to the stabilization of Iraq.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 20, 2024.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO  
THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL  
COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL  
CEREMONIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to S. Con. Res. 34, 118th Congress, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies:

Mr. JOHNSON, Louisiana  
Mr. SCALISE, Louisiana  
Mr. JEFFRIES, New York

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 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1534

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia) at 3 o'clock and 34 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 votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

MODERNIZING GOVERNMENT  
TECHNOLOGY REFORM ACT

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5527) to amend section 1078 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 to increase the effectiveness of the Technology Modernization Fund, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5527

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Modernizing Government Technology Reform Act".

SEC. 2. REALIGNING USE OF FUNDS WITH ORIGINAL CONGRESSIONAL INTENT.

Section 1078 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91; 40 U.S.C. 11301 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—  
(A) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, in accordance with recommendations

from the Board, use amounts in the Fund for the following:

“(i) To transfer such amounts, to remain available until expended, to the head of an agency for the acquisition, procurement, and operation of information technology, or the development of information technology when more efficient and cost effective, to—

“(I) modernize, retire, or replace legacy information technology systems used by the agency;

“(II) enhance cybersecurity and privacy at the agency;

“(III) improve long-term efficiency and effectiveness of agency information technology; or

“(IV) improve the ability of the agency to perform the mission of the agency and deliver services to the public.

“(ii) To provide services or work performed in support of—

“(I) the activities described in clause (i); and

“(II) the Board and the Director in carrying out the responsibilities described in subsection (c)(2).

“(iii) To fund only programs, projects, or activities, or to fund increases for any programs, projects, or activities that have not been denied or restricted by Congress.

“(iv) To transfer such amounts only for programs, projects, or activities that will be reimbursed to the Fund to the extent necessary to ensure total amounts in the Fund are no less than the amounts needed to keep the Fund operational until the Fund sunsets pursuant to subsection (g)(1).

“(B) TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF FUNDS.—The Administrator shall, in accordance with recommendations from the Board, suspend or terminate funding for any project with respect to which the head of an agency provided fraudulent or misleading statements about such project (including fraudulent statements about technical design, the business case, or program management with respect to the project) in the application or proposal for amounts from the Fund for such project.”;

(B) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “or (B)”; and

(bb) by striking “(3)(C)” and inserting “(3)(A)(ii)”; and

(II) in clause (ii), by striking “, consistent with any applicable reprogramming law or guidelines of the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(i)—

(I) by striking “paragraph (3)(C)” and inserting “paragraph (3)(A)(ii)”; and

(II) by striking “the solvency of the Fund, including operating expenses” and inserting the following: “total amounts in the Fund are no less than the amounts needed to keep the Fund operational until the Fund sunsets pursuant to subsection (g)(1)”;;

(C) in paragraph (6)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the matter before clause (i), by striking “subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (3)” and inserting the following: “paragraph (3)(A)(i) and before any services or work are provided under paragraph (3)(A)(ii)(I)”;;

(II) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “unless approved by the Director”; and

(bb) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(III) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iv); and

(IV) by inserting after clause (i) the following new clauses:

“(ii) which shall include terms of repayment that require the head of the agency to reimburse the Fund for funds transferred