

Bless us this day and every day, and may all that is done within the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN 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.

PRESIDENT OBAMA MUST BRING OUR MARINE HOME

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Andrew Tahmooressi is a 25-year-old United States marine from south Florida who served our country bravely and honorably during two combat tours in Afghanistan. Andrew was meritoriously promoted on the battlefield to sergeant during his last tour, which shows the true character of this young man who once told his mom that he was "nudged by God" to join the military.

Andrew suffers from posttraumatic stress disorder and was invited by a fellow marine to seek treatment in San Diego. He accidentally ended up at the Mexican border, where he was arrested by Mexican authorities for possessing firearms.

Andrew's mistake was taking a wrong turn. The administration's mistake is to let him languish in Mexican prisons where he faced threats and abuses. President Obama and Vice President BIDEN both had opportunities to demand his release, but they shirked their responsibilities and their obligations to this young man and his family.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to bring our marine home now.

IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of June as Immigrant Heritage Month. This month I join my colleague, Representative SÁNCHEZ, as an original cosponsor recognizing the month of June as Immigrant Heritage Month in honor of the role immigrants play in shaping the history and culture of the United States.

No country has been more invigorated by immigrant culture, more rewarded by immigrant labor and immigrant ideas than our country, America. I believe the only true way to honor the immigrants that built the foundation of this great Nation is by fixing our broken immigration system, but House Republicans have refused to pass an immigration reform bill.

To mark Immigration Heritage Month, we must create a message of unity and remember that this country was also built by the dreams and hard work of people who came from someplace else. Perhaps then we can change the dialogue around immigration by placing attention on the country's diverse immigrant heritage and the need to bring immigration reform to the floor for a vote.

WRONG SIGNAL ON IMMIGRATION

(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, the Post and Courier of Charleston, South Carolina, presented an editorial last Tuesday correctly revealing the wrong signal on immigration. The opinion states:

Central American children have entered the United States in large numbers in recent weeks. Their mass entry has also produced another political obstacle to passing comprehensive immigration reform legislation. Opponents of the initiative reasonably point out that this is the latest border problem as additional evidence of the Obama administration's lack of credibility on the issue. Numerous Republican lawmakers have cited, as a motivating factor of this incoming tide of humanity, President Barack Obama's executive edict deferring deportations. And their continuing migration into our country strengthens the assumption that the President has no intention of fulfilling its pledge to bolster border security. Clearly, if the President and other advocates of sweeping immigration reform are serious about moving one through Congress, Federal border enforcement must be intensified.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

JUNE IS ALZHEIMER'S AND BRAIN AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize June as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month.

Worldwide, at least 44 million people are living with Alzheimer's disease.

The number is expected to rise to 76 million by 2030. In the United States, 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's.

Those who are affected by this disease know that the costs are high. The disease affects or hits both the afflicted and those who love the afflicted. It is a disease whose origins are unknown but whose end is absolutely certain. It is a disease that takes your mind, your dignity, and eventually your life. Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and is the most expensive disease, costing our Nation \$214 billion in 2014 alone.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to take action on finding a cure for this fatal disease by supporting the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act to improve diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's and to commit to making a strong investment in funding research to find a cure.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS LUNCH

(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, on Saturday, I had the chance to join with the Consul General Dong-man Han in presenting the memorial wreath at the 25th annual Korean war veterans lunch held at the VFW hall in Anderson, California. It was an honor to be in the company with such a courageous group of men who fought hard for the freedoms that the people of South Korea enjoy today.

The luncheon also served as a solemn reminder of the sacrifices that have been made on our behalf and the commitment we have to our veterans. That commitment wouldn't be embodied any better than by my friend Kim Chamberlain, who is a Korean immigrant.

As I assured the many veterans in the audience on Saturday, from the first time a constituent alerted me about issues he had faced with the VA until today, the vigilance of my office, myself, and many of my colleagues in this House, that commitment will remain to get to the bottom, to get solutions for the VA and the problems the veterans face on the backlog of not only their health issues but, as well, the backlog of even having their cases heard and the benefits.

So, many questions still remain. I look forward to meeting with the new director of the Oakland regional office there pretty soon and getting to the bottom and getting real solutions for veterans. Our commitment remains on them.

1-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM BY THE SENATE

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, it has been almost 1 year since two-thirds of the Senate—Democrats and Republicans—voted for comprehensive immigration reform. So House Republicans have had 1 year to address the 4.3 million families languishing in the immigration backlogs separated from their loved ones for decades, 1 year to bring the 11 million undocumented immigrants who are already in the fabric of our society out of the shadows so they can earn their place in society, and 1 year to allow the brightest minds in the world to graduate from our schools and contribute to the economy. They have had 1 year to reduce the deficit by nearly \$1 trillion, as this bill will do.

They promised the American people reform; all we have heard are excuses for the delays. That is why I helped to introduce H.R. 15, a bipartisan immigration bill. This bill has the votes to pass today.

I urge Republican leadership to put politics aside and bring this bill to the floor. It is time to fix our broken immigration system once and for all.

BORDER CRISIS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you know, the surge of illegal immigration on the southern border of Texas is one of the largest security and social issues facing our Nation today. Thousands of illegals crossing into the United States directly impact our schools, our hospitals, government budgets, employment, crime, and all parts of American life.

Sadly, this surge is no coincidence; instead, it is a direct response to President Obama's failed policies.

News reports stated:

White House officials acknowledged some of the thousands of children seeking refuge are coming, in part, because they think they will be allowed to stay in the United States because of President Obama's policies.

This is totally unacceptable. We are a Nation of laws. The President has a duty to fully enforce our laws and protect our borders.

Texans and all Americans want, need, and deserve a secure border, period.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT DICK SHIGEMI HAMADA

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

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Staff Sergeant Dick Shigemi Hamada, a Japanese American World War II veteran born in Hawaii who served under the Office of Strategic Services, a precursor to the CIA.

He volunteered for the renowned 442nd Regimental Combat Team in 1943, shipped off to the fearsome battle-

fields of the Burma-India-China theater, and later parachuted into what is now Beijing in order to rescue more than 600 prisoners of war.

Throughout his military career, Staff Sergeant Hamada stayed true to the aloha spirit. His love of our country and determination to do whatever it took to accomplish the mission are an inspiration to all who have raised their hands to wear the uniform and serve.

Staff Sergeant Hamada passed away on May 27 at the age of 92, leaving behind a legacy of courage and servant leadership. He will be interred later today at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, and we send to him our deepest gratitude and say "aloha" to this Hawaii hero.

WE NEED TO SECURE OUR BORDER

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

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, in May of 2011, President Obama gave a speech in El Paso, Texas, where he effectively said: Mission accomplished—our border is secure. In fact, he mocked those of us who disagreed with him, suggesting that we wouldn't be happy until there was a moat guarding our southern border.

Mr. Speaker, as we witness tens of thousands of children crossing our border today, I hope the President remembers his speech in El Paso and owns up to his administration's failure in enforcing our immigration policy.

We need a secure border before we can address any kind of immigration reform, which is why I am a proud co-sponsor of H.R. 2220, the SMART Border Act—tough, smart legislation to finally get operational control over our Nation's borders.

□ 1215

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WORKERS OF WARREN MILL

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, last December, in Stafford Springs, Connecticut, Warren mill, a textile mill that had been in operation for 161 years, sadly closed its doors and laid off its workers.

It was a day where many were sort of writing obituaries for the textile industry in New England, but for many, the memory and the reputation of the high quality of that factory lived on.

Fast forward to this past Wednesday, a new owner, American Woolen, closed on a deal to reopen the plant, which the looms will be humming by the end of this month, hiring back the workers whose quality workmanship, again, resurrected this industry for New England.

It was because of the combined effort of my office, which worked with the

parties, to bring them together, and Governor Dan Malloy, who provided some low-interest financing, to help the transaction move forward. It all came together, so that by the end of June, 80 workers are going to be back at the looms producing wool and delivering it with a "Made in America" stamp, which is not just a dream, it is a reality. It is good business practice for people to invest in America's workers.

Congratulations to the workers of Warren mill in Stafford Springs, Connecticut, for setting an example of how we, as a Nation, can lead again in manufacturing.

GI BILL ANNIVERSARY

(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 celebrate the 70th anniversary of the original GI Bill, also known as the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944. This legislation has had an enormous impact on the lives of millions of veterans, creating access to low-cost home loans and educational and vocational training.

Signed into law on June 22, 1944, the GI Bill came into being during the height of World War II, when America was mobilized into war around the globe. These veterans returned from war, utilized access to education and training, and began building an America that would lead the world economically and militarily for generations to come.

Since then, veterans from other conflicts, including Korea, Vietnam, and others, have used the GI Bill. Recently, it was amended to allow a new generation of veterans to gain access to a variety of benefits to transition to civilian life. The post-9/11 GI Bill builds upon the success of a bill signed into law 70 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, our veterans have paid a high price to earn these benefits, and they deserve as much.

HONORING MABON "TEENIE" HODGES

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of an outstanding guitarist, songwriter, singer, and legendary Memphis musician, Mabon Hodges, better known as "Teenie" Hodges, who passed away in Dallas just yesterday.

Teenie started playing the guitar at age 12, and he and his brothers were part of the Hi Rhythm Section, which was part of Royal Studios and Hi Records music that produced Al Green and Otis Clay and others, a great part of the Memphis sound in the seventies under Willie Mitchell, a great producer and great musician himself.