

loves books, balls, and super heroes. He knows over 30 sign language words. And just like my other children at his age, I do not know where his cognitive ability will be when he grows up. What I do know is all individuals with Down syndrome experience some kind of cognitive delay. I pray that 7 weekly therapy appointments with an early intervention teacher, physical therapist, occupational therapist and speech therapist will help him be the best that he can be. We dream BIG for David! Why shouldn't we?

My son is young and only time will tell what services and programs he may or may not need when he is an adult. But one message is clear: David must remain 'poor' in order to receive the services. Even if the services may not provide for all his needs adequately. We can't save for David in the same way we can for his brothers. We can't teach David to save his money. As child, I grew up in family that lived paycheck to paycheck, I promised myself to change that for my kids. I am in a position to do that but David's little extra chromosome prevents me from saving in a 529 for him or letting him have his own little savings account at the local bank.

The ABLE Act would mean that we could start saving for David's future today. We could teach David the importance of saving. We could make sure that David's brothers do not have to feel financially burdened by the cost of taking care of their littlest brother. The fear of my son's hating me because of David's Down syndrome was silly, his brothers love him to pieces and they would do anything for him. David and everyone with Down syndrome or any other special need deserves the right to save money for their future. Even my 8 and 10 year old boys get it! Please pass the ABLE Act.

MARLJO, JASON, JACOB,
ANDREW, SIMON AND
DAVID SCHWENGLER,
Fargo, ND.

CONGRATULATING ROBERT CASHELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the retirement of a member of Nevada's public service varsity team, Reno mayor Bob Cashell. Bob was not a native of Nevada, but like most people in Nevada, he got there as quick as he could.

He has been there for a long time and has had various titles during his public service career: chairman of the board of regents of the university system, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Nevada, and finally—maybe finally—as the mayor of the city of Reno.

Bob is one of those folks who is blessed with vision that does not have many shades of gray. It is pretty black and white with the mayor when you talk to him, whether formally, informally, or whatever.

Words like "gosh" and "gee whiz" are not used in his vocabulary much. He possesses an incredible volume to his voice, uses it often, and is happy to share with you his thoughts.

Bob also has the support of an outstanding family: his wife and partner in life, Nancy, and his sons. His family has been key in terms of the fabric of the community of Truckee Meadows in

northern Nevada for half a century or more.

In the resort hospitality industry, Bob was involved with properties, ownership-management—whatever—in Reno, Winnemucca, Carson City, and that little town where they do a little bit of the gaming business in the south known as Las Vegas. He was an outstanding participant in all of those.

A native of the Lone Star State, we were lucky to have Mayor Cashell come and make Nevada his home for all of his adult life and raise his family. Mr. Speaker, I thank Bob Cashell very much for his public service.

We appreciate it, and I look forward to hopefully being able to speak about him not here on the floor of the House of Representatives, but in a roast in the Truckee Meadows some time where I can pay him back for when he spoke at my roast upon my retirement from the legislature.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Eung Yul David Ryoo, Korean Central Presbyterian Church, Centreville, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Merciful God, we give our thanksgiving and praise to You, the triune God and the Creator of the universe, for offering salvation through Jesus Christ and guidance through the Holy Spirit.

We pray that humankind would be united in mutual brotherhood under Your love. We pray for Your blessing upon the United States of America, so that it would live according to Your Word as one Nation under God.

Bless the Members of the House of Representatives who have gathered here today. Etch within their hearts a fierce calling towards their motherland, within their heads the wisdom to complete their tasks with integrity, and within their lives the courage to sacrifice for the people of our country.

We pray that all here would experience the glorious joy of serving this country and its people with all that You have bestowed upon them.

We pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PAYNE 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND EUNG YUL DAVID RYOO

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join you in welcoming our pastor, Pastor Ryoo, from the Korean Central Presbyterian Church, located in Centreville, Virginia, and the 11th Congressional District, for today's invocation.

This church has been active in our community since it was founded 41 years ago in Vienna. Prior to my election to Congress, I served as chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, where I had the opportunity to collaborate with the congregation on the construction of its new sanctuary and on many of its activities throughout our community.

Within its many outreach ministries, the church founded a senior center 20 years ago, offering meals, recreation, skills training, and computerization for our senior population.

Under the direction of Heisung Lee, the center is now independently run and has been recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Republic of Korea as an outstanding volunteer organization.

This and the many other activities of the congregation exemplify the tremendous contributions the Korean American community are making throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent one of the most vibrant Korean American communities in the United States and to continue our partnership here in Congress as cochair of the Korea Caucus.

I thank you, again, for joining us in welcoming Pastor Ryoo who, I think, really is emblematic of the success of the immigrant population in the United States. He represents our future.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

ISRAEL

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to acknowledge the special relationship between the United States and Israel.

This year, we have witnessed yet another ugly chapter in the history of Israel's enduring fight to defend her sovereign borders and protect her people from terrorist attacks.

On August 1, Congress approved a measure to deliver an additional \$225 million in aid to Israel, with the aim of replenishing funds for the Iron Dome antimissile defense system in the midst of the conflict between Israel and Hamas.

It was absolutely the right thing to do because America's national security interests are directly tied to developments in the Middle East and specifically to Israel's own security. Strategic cooperation between the U.S. and Israel is vital to the well-being of both countries.

The simple truth is, throughout history, Israel has made numerous concessions in the pursuit of peace while seeking only the right to exist. The country is a beacon of democracy in a sea of violence and hostility, and its ability to function and defend itself against terrorism is in no small part due to the support from the United States.

GAS TAX PRESS CONFERENCE

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago today, I introduced the first gas tax increase in 21 years. The only thing that has changed in that year is that the need is greater and the path forward is even easier. Everyone knows that America is falling apart and falling behind while gas prices have dropped dramatically.

I am joined this afternoon by Ronald Reagan who 32 years ago, on Thanksgiving, made a powerful radio address, explaining why he more than doubled the gas tax—actually, a user fee, he pointed out. The same speech could and should be made by President Obama tomorrow.

I urge you, my colleagues, to join me and Ronald Reagan in fixing the bankrupt highway trust fund, increasing the gas tax so we can rebuild and renew America and put hundreds of thousands of people to work at family-wage jobs all across this great land.

With the need getting worse and gas prices falling, there will never be a better time. All it takes is a little leadership and courage from the President and Congress.

THE ABLE ACT

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

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the ABLE Act.

I am a cosponsor of this bill because I believe that we need to make it easier for families with individuals with disabilities to save money for their care and to not be penalized for doing so. This legislation also makes an important improvement to 529 plans that will give parents more control over their children's savings.

It is rare for a bill to gain as much bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate as the ABLE Act has. This is because advocates for the ABLE Act have worked tirelessly over the past several years to ensure that it crosses the finish line.

I am pleased that many of them are here today, and I congratulate them on their hard work.

HONORING ENI FALEOMAVEGA

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor my colleague and friend, Congressman ENI FALEOMAVEGA of American Samoa.

ENI has served on Capitol Hill for nearly four decades, starting as a congressional staff member and eventually being elected to Congress for 13 straight terms.

Throughout his distinguished career, ENI has broken many barriers. He is the first Asian Pacific American ever to chair the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, and he is the longest-serving Samoan Member of Congress. He is also a Vietnam war veteran; an author; a musician; and a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Over the years, I have had the privilege to work with ENI through the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and I have witnessed firsthand his unwavering commitment to the well-being of his constituents and to the broader Asian Pacific American community.

Thank you, ENI, for your lifetime of leadership and service. I wish you all the best.

IN TRIBUTE TO MARION RAMSEY

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the retirement of Marion Ramsey of Rogers, Arkansas, and the closing of her business, Marion's Donuts, that became part of my daily routine 35 years ago.

The "doughnut shop," as I affectionately called it, was my favorite place to catch up on the latest city news—oftentimes, just plain ole gossip—and hear about the aches and pains and the latest trials and tribulations of those who frequented the establishment over time.

I have taken my boys there since birth, and it was nostalgic for all three of them to join me last Sunday, her last day of business, for old times' sake.

The Bible tells us there is a season for everything. I am sad that the "season" has come and gone for Marion's Donuts because, while I will find another place for my morning coffee, I am not sure how I will fill the void on the friendships forged down through the years.

Enjoy your retirement, Marion. Your customers are grateful for our time together.

PEARL HARBOR DAY

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, December 7, is the 73rd anniversary of the attack on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor. That day, over 2,000 American soldiers and sailors lost their lives, and another 1,000 were wounded.

South Buffalo native, Army Corporal Earl Wickett, witnessed the horrors of that day; fought bravely for this Nation; and was fortunate to make it back, raise a family, and serve his community as a Buffalo firefighter. Sadly, Earl passed away this year, but his stories and the bravery of all of those who served that day must always be remembered.

On Sunday, West Seneca American Legion Post 735 will be among those recognizing Pearl Harbor Day and honoring the promise to never forget the sacrifices and service of those who were there on that day.

Today, I join them and others in paying tribute to all of those who faced the unthinkable at Pearl Harbor, to survivors, like Earl Wickett, and to the many who never made it back.

THE ABLE ACT

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the ABLE Act, with over 380 cosponsors.