

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

Mr. DOLD 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

POSITIVE IMPROVEMENTS TO MENTAL HEALTH

(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, millions of Americans across the country know the benefits of evidence-driven mental health care; yet, our national mental health system has been harmed after years of bad policy.

Yesterday The Wall Street Journal stated, "As it happens, this month a House subcommittee passed one of the more consequential bills of this Republican majority—the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act. Recent mass killers have nearly all had some kind of mental illness; yet, few receive proper treatment. Representative TIM MURPHY spent more than a year investigating dysfunction and writing an overhaul."

I am grateful to be a cosponsor of the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act developed by a dedicated professional, TIM MURPHY. This legislation helps States to modernize involuntary commitment laws and encourages assisted outpatient treatment for patients to remain active in their communities.

This legislation determines funding based on evidence-based care, putting critical resources into programs we know work, not into vague or untested theories. As the former president of the Mid-Carolina Mental Health Association myself, I appreciate this reform.

In conclusion, God bless our troops. May the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

THE POLICE TRAINING AND INDEPENDENT REVIEW ACT

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of the shocking video from Chicago showing the brutal shooting of Laquan McDonald by a Chicago police officer, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to pass H.R. 2302, the Police Training and Independent Review Act.

Congressman LACY CLAY and I introduced this bill earlier this year to stop local prosecutors from being tasked with investigating and prosecuting the same local police with whom they work so closely.

This is an inherent conflict of interest. What happened in Chicago is just the latest evidence that it needs to end.

If enacted, the Police Training and Independent Review Act would condition the receipt of full Byrne-JAG funding on States adopting laws to require independent investigation and, if necessary, prosecution of law enforcement officers in cases involving the use of deadly force.

If we are serious about restoring a sense of fairness and justice, we need to pass this bill and remove this conflict.

Law enforcement, police, and sheriffs have a tough job, a dangerous job, and they bring cases to DAs and serve as witnesses. This hand-in-glove relationship shouldn't be upset, but it also shouldn't upset justice.

We have seen charges brought against officers in certain cities, but more would be brought if there were independent prosecutions.

CONGRATULATING PRINCIPAL STEVE HOPE, 2015 INDIANA HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

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

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Principal Steve Hope of Penn High School in Mishawaka for earning the 2015 Indiana High School Principal of the Year Award by the Indiana Association of School Principals.

For nearly 20 years Principal Hope has been more than just a teacher. He has been a mentor, support system, and friend to countless people.

His passion for education has been instrumental in preparing young Hoosiers for so much success later in life. Since he became the principal in 2008, Indiana's Department of Education has named Penn an A-rated school and a 4-Star Award winner.

He has taught students more than just curriculum. He has taught students life lessons they will remember forever.

On behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District of Indiana, I

heartily want to thank Principal Hope for being an inspiration to students and teachers alike. His dedication to providing a quality education to each Hoosier that crosses his path is such an inspiration to all of us in Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Penn High School Principal Steve Hope on receiving this prestigious award.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SOUTH PARK HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, last Friday my alma mater, South Park High School, made history as their football team, the Sparks, brought home the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Championship to Buffalo.

The Sparks played in front of a crowd of 3,000 at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse. The team capped off a record-breaking 12-1 season by defeating Our Lady of Lourdes by a score of 49-46.

The team's win was a storybook ending to a historic season. Most members of the team have been playing together since Little League, and this close-knit group became the first ever Buffalo City School to win a State championship.

I stand today as a proud South Park graduate to congratulate the team, coaches, parents, and Principal Terri Schuta, my friend and classmate, for claiming the State title for Buffalo and South Park High School.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S TIMID RESPONSE TO ISIS

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is so disappointing that President Obama believes a climate change summit is somehow a rebuke of international terrorism. Think about that.

The President's timid response about how to take on ISIS and how to define our enemy has emboldened our enemy, radical Islamists extremists.

But he has not been timid in his response on global warming. At a meeting of world leaders right now in Paris, President Obama is choosing to pursue his climate change agenda instead of addressing how we are going to destroy ISIS.

In fact, our President seems to believe that global warming is a greater threat than international terrorism. It is clear, in the wake of the horrific attacks in Paris, that his priorities are gravely misplaced.

When discussing ISIS, the President reminded the Nation that "we've faced greater threats to our way of life before." True. But that doesn't change the fact that radical Islamic extremism is the threat we face now.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSA PARKS

□ 1215

WORLD AIDS DAY

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

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, 60 years ago today Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her bus seat to a White man. Her simple act of defiance and her quiet dignity in the face of daily injustice grabbed the attention of activists and launched the civil rights movement.

In 2013, we unveiled a statue of Rosa Parks that stands just outside these doors in the U.S. Capitol Statuary Hall. This year I took my 11-year-old granddaughter to Rosa Parks Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, so that the next generation of young Americans can understand the role that she played in shaping the history of our country.

I actually got the great honor of meeting Rosa Parks at an event once that my father held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital in Watts. What thrill it was to hold her hand as the audience sang "We Shall Overcome."

It has been 60 years, but, unfortunately, we know that the discrimination Rosa Parks faced still faces minorities communities in this country today.

On this anniversary, I hope we can look to her example for inspiration in the ongoing struggle for justice for every American.

HONORING MIAMI DADE COLLEGE WOLFSON CAMPUS PRESIDENT DR. JOSE A. VICENTE

(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, I rise today to honor Dr. Jose A. Vicente, who is retiring from his post as president of Wolfson Campus of Miami Dade College, where each year 27,000 students receive a high-quality education in the heart of downtown Miami.

Dr. Vicente's retirement marks the end of an amazing 42-year career at my alma mater, Miami Dade College. Dr. Vicente's commitment to education is evident not only from his varied teaching and administrative roles at Miami Dade College, but also through his active involvement as a board member in national education groups, including the American Association of Community Colleges and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, known as HACU.

Congratulations to Dr. Jose Vicente on his well-deserved retirement. I thank him for his wonderful legacy of enhanced educational opportunities that will continue to benefit our South Florida community for years to come.

Godspeed, Jose.

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

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate World AIDS Day. The theme this year is: The Time to Act is Now.

First, I would like to thank Leader PELOSI for her steadfast commitment to fighting HIV and AIDS and for guaranteeing strong United States leadership in this area.

As the cofounder and cochair along with my good friend from Florida, Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN of the bipartisan Congressional HIV/AIDS Caucus, we have seen the significant progress that we have made in the global fight against HIV.

From PEPFAR and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, which we were very proud to cosponsor, to the Ryan White CARE Act and the Minority AIDS Initiative, the U.S. has been a global leader in committing the critical resources needed to end this disease.

Thanks to the leadership of people like Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, former Congresswoman Donna Christensen, and the Congressional Black Caucus, we are turning the tide in providing lifesaving prevention and treatment services to disproportionately affected communities here at home. This has been a bipartisan effort which we must continue because we still have a lot of work to do.

Mr. Speaker, in the United States, southern States are now the epicenter of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Stigma, discrimination, and lack of education about the disease continue to be significant barriers to care and prevention. The time to act is now.

EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight November as Epilepsy Awareness Month. Tragically, across the country today thousands of families dealing with epilepsy and other debilitating seizure disorders have been forced to uproot their families as they travel to States where CBD oil is already legalized.

Especially in children, CBD oil helps reduce the amount and the duration of seizures. But over and over again the government has stood in the way of access to lifesaving care for these children.

Children across the country, like Sophie Weiss, deserve better. Sophie is an inspiring young girl from the Tenth Congressional District in Illinois. She suffers from a severe form of epilepsy and, without CBD oil, suffers upwards of 200 seizures each and every day.

Mr. Speaker, for Sophie and children suffering like her, I helped introduce a

bill to stop the government from standing in the way of this lifesaving relief.

In honor of Epilepsy Awareness Month, I call on my colleagues to join me so we can pass the Charlotte's Web Medical Hemp Act of 2015 and ensure that no family has to endure the loss of a child as they wait for approval of this natural, lifesaving option.

9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, let's not play politics with the health and compensation bill for the 9/11 heroes and heroines. There are over 70,000 9/11 first responders and survivors, the veterans of our war on terror. They come from every single State in the Union, and they are waiting to see if Congress will act for their health care.

There is broad bipartisan, bicameral support for a permanent reauthorization. There are 259 House cosponsors, including 67 Republicans. Both Chairman GOODLATTE and Chairman UPTON, along with Ranking Member CONYERS and Ranking Member PALLONE, support this bill and want to pass it.

There are just 7 legislative days left. This is something we all agree on, something that is clearly the right thing to do.

I urge my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to get this done this year. Let's keep our promise to the 9/11 heroes and heroines, to the first responders, to the victims, and to the survivors. Let's pass this bill this year.

THE PROMISE ACT

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of our true American heroes, our veterans, to highlight important legislation that will help those who need it most. Last month I introduced the PROMISE Act to continue my efforts to promote safety, patient advocacy, and better access to quality care for our veterans.

The PROMISE Act will increase safety for opioid therapy and pain management, encourage more transparency at the VA, encourage more outreach and awareness of the Patient Advocacy Program for veterans, and help provide alternative forms of care to address veterans' health needs.

Our veterans sacrificed so much for our country. It is up to us to provide them with the care they have earned and deserve. We must encourage safe, quality care for those who have fought for our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and help fulfill our promise to our veterans.