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## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, January 15, 2016, at 11 a.m.

## House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: We give You thanks, merciful God, for giving us another day.

As You make available to Your people the grace and knowledge to meet the needs of the day, we pray that Your spirit will be upon the Members of this people's House, giving them the richness of Your wisdom.

Bless the Members of the majority party as they gather these next days. May they, with those who accompany them, travel safely and meet in peace.

Bless also the minority party as they prepare for their own gathering. May these days be filled with hopeful anticipation.

May the power of Your truth and our faith in Your providence give them all the confidence they must have to do the good work required for service to our Nation. Give all Members the strength of purpose and clarity of mind to do those things that bring justice and mercy to people, and maintain freedom and liberty for our land.

May all that is done this day 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 gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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 five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### MORE EMPTY WORDS AT STATE OF THE UNION

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, for the past 7 years, President Obama has given us 47,625 words of meaningless rhetoric. Last night's State of the Union address was more of the same empty words.

President Obama has never adequately focused on what really matters in this country: keeping America safe and defending our cherished freedoms.

Instead, he wants to maintain the status quo and continues to promote top-down, one-size-fits-all Federal dictates that stymie economic growth. It is clear he doesn't understand the solu-

tions that will get our Nation back on track with the American people, not Washington bureaucrats.

President Obama promised hope and change, but his failed agenda has brought the wrong kind of change, and many North Carolinians are losing hope.

Fortunately, Republicans are committed to restoring confidence in America and empowering her people to make their own decisions and pursue their own dreams.

### HONORING KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

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

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Korean American Day and to honor the 2 million Korean Americans across this country. January 13 is a day of celebration not just for the Korean Americans across this country; it is a celebration of America.

113 years ago, 102 men, women, and children traveled from the Korean Peninsula and landed in Hawaii. Since their arrival, the Korean American community has enriched and strengthened our Nation's society, culture, Armed Forces, economy, politics, education, and arts.

From serving in high-level posts in our government to making strides in entrepreneurship and medicine, Korean Americans continue to leave an indelible mark in our Nation's history and makeup. So to the Korean Americans

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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across this great Nation, including those in my district, our Nation honors and celebrates you.

#### HONORING ETHAN EDELMAN

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

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of United States Army veteran Ethan Edelman of Highlands Ranch, Colorado.

Ethan Edelman served for 3 years in the United States infantry. His military service included a combat tour of duty in Afghanistan. His personal awards include the United States Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Army Good Conduct Medal.

Like so many other veterans before him, Ethan Edelman served his country with honor, with dedication, and with courage.

Ethan Edelman left the United States Army to enroll as a student at Metropolitan State University in Denver, Colorado.

Last year, Ethan Edelman, tragically, took his own life on Veterans Day, a day that carries so much emotion for those of us who have served this great Nation in uniform.

Ethan Edelman will always be remembered for his service to this country. He will forever be missed by his family, his friends, and by the soldiers who served by his side in combat.

RECOGNIZING GABRIELLA  
MELENDEZ, TORIANA  
CORNWELL, AND SHANIYLAH  
WELCH

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

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, three students from the Hamlin Park Academy—Gabriella Melendez, Toriana Cornwell, and Shaniylah Welch—will participate in the Fourth Annual State of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Address hosted by the White House.

After months of planning, fundraising, and research, these three bright women partnered with Western New York STEM Hub to develop and fine-tune their experiment, “Tumor Growth in Microgravity,” which earned them the nickname “Spud Launchers.”

Through collaborative efforts with NASA, these spud launchers will test the ability of potatoes to grow in microgravity, toward the goal of learning about how plants might grow on other planets.

Their experiment won the national competition held by the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program and will be conducted abroad at the International Space Station this year.

These three young women are role models to all of the bright young minds in our community. Their success is a

result of their curiosity and their hard work. It is a testament to their families, the Buffalo Public Schools system, Western New York STEM Hub, and, most importantly, their teachers.

#### CONGRATULATING VINCENT “ZIPPY” DUVALL

(Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Vincent “Zippy” Duvall on his election yesterday as president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Zippy is a third-generation farmer from Greene County, Georgia, and has been a Farm Bureau member since 1977. For the past 9 years, he has served as president of the Georgia Farm Bureau, while producing poultry, cattle, and hay on his family farm.

I am so proud to have Zippy and his wife, Bonnie, as constituents of the Tenth District of Georgia. He has done an extraordinary job serving as the voice of agriculture in Georgia, and I can think of no better leader than Zippy Duvall to serve as the new president of the American Farm Bureau.

#### KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

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

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Korean American Day, a day that commemorates the first Korean immigrants to arrive in the United States on January 13, 1903. On that day, the S.S. *Gaelic* brought 56 men, 21 women, and 25 children across the Pacific Ocean from Korea to America in search of a better future.

On Korean American Day, our Nation celebrates a community that has made tremendous contributions to this country. Since 1903, the Korean American population has grown to almost 2 million and has become intricately woven in the fabric of our country.

Korean Americans have made contributions in all aspects of American life. They are our servicemembers, our doctors, businessmen, teachers, and community leaders. They are our neighbors and, most importantly, our friends.

For centuries, Korean immigrants and their descendants have helped build America's prosperity. Their culture enriches our lives in so many ways as they uphold the important values of community, hard work, and family that make America strong.

I am proud to be a part of New York State, which has the second largest Korean American population in the U.S. I am honored to join my colleagues and friends in celebrating all that the Korean Americans have done for our great Nation.

#### SMALL BUSINESS HURT BY FEDERAL OVERREACH

(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, last night the President said that he is finally ready to work with us here in Congress. Today we will send him a measure blocking the EPA's waters of the United States power grab, a proposal rejected by both Houses of Congress, two Federal courts, the Government Accountability Office, and many States.

The EPA's plan would grant jurisdiction over fully 95 percent of my home State of California, allowing an unaccountable Federal agency to insert itself into land use decisions once again across our State.

Mr. Speaker, the President spoke glowingly of small business America last night. Between waters of the United States, his rejection of health options plans for Americans, and forcing minimum wage proposals upon small businesses and their employees, small businesses don't have a chance. They don't have a chance to survive and thrive in this country.

If the President really wants to work with Congress in a constructive way, he can start today by rejecting the waters of the United States policy that is hurting small businesses, farms, and ranches, and actually help us build the water supply we need in California and the Western States.

#### TIME FOR THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO TAKE ACTION

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, well, the lights and the heat are on at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, illegally occupied by ultra rightwing, antigovernment extremists. But you have to wonder if the lights are on or anybody is home down there at the Justice Department. Hello? I don't think there is anybody there.

I believe that this illegal occupation, this destruction of Federal property, was directly emboldened by the fact that the father of the two leaders, Cliven Bundy, stood down the government 2 years ago when he owed \$1 million.

Other ranchers pay their grazing fees, and he refuses to do it. He was grazing in areas that were prohibited. He stood down the government at the point of a gun, and he is still illegally grazing.

Nobody—nobody—at the Justice Department has seen fit to lift a finger against him. There is no ongoing prosecution. They haven't put a lien on his cattle.

He celebrated the anniversary of the takeover and said: This is how it is done.