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House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

Dr. Ted Traylor, Olive Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Lord, God, the great I am, we confess and acknowledge today that it all comes from You. You have made us and not we ourselves. Our very breath is from You, and our sustenance, happiness, and existence as a nation. Unto You we give thanks, Almighty God.

Thank You for this wonderful land called the United States of America. Thank You for our liberty and all who defend it. Thank You for our rule of law and all who keep it, and we pray Your safety on those that enforce it this day.

Lord, forgive us and deliver us from any sort of reliance on ourselves. Forgive us when we become proud and self-righteous with hearts as hard as stone. Thank You for Your forgiveness when we call upon Your name.

Lord, I would beg You today that You would send spiritual awakening in our Nation. I pray, God, that You would bless America and that America would, indeed, bless You.

And now, God of all wisdom, I bring our Representatives before You. Refresh each of them with Your mercy for the day ahead. Cause truth and justice to triumph over personal preference, and direct every decision of this body. I am keenly aware that they also have individual needs, and we pray that by Your favor, You will help them as they carry their personal burdens as well as the burden of a nation.

I ask all of this through the merits of Jesus Christ, Your son and our Savior. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL 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 DR. TED TRAYLOR

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to welcome to the House today Dr. Ted Traylor, who has been the pastor at Olive Baptist Church since 1990. His weekly radio and television ministry, "At the Heart of Things," reaches thousands of homes along the Gulf Coast and through weekly podcasts and streaming. Dr. Traylor's bold and practical preaching brings people to a fresh understanding of God's Word and challenges them to become bondservants for Christ.

He is known for his uncompromising stand on Biblical issues and strong defense of the Christian faith. He has preached extensively throughout the United States in conferences and revivals. Emanuel University in Oradea, Romania, has honored him by placing his name on the chair of Pastoral Leadership.

Dr. Traylor's family is his proudest accomplishment. He has been married to his beautiful wife, Liz, for 38 years. They have two children, Rachel and Bennett. Rachel is married to Brad

Hinote, and they have two daughters, Kathryn and Elizabeth.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

THE NUMBERS

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

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I have tried, through words, to demonstrate the severity of our country's mental health crisis. Today I will try it again with numbers:

67,130, the number of Americans who have died from mental health issues since we passed the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act;

0.006 percent, the percentage of Americans who will suffer from addiction and are able to get help. That is six out of every 1,000;

1,625, the number of Americans who have died by suicide since September 1, the first day of Suicide Prevention Month.

A final question as we close the week. If the Senate adjourns without passing H.R. 2646 to be signed into law, what clumsy, beltway babble will be used to comfort the thousands of families who will be told, "We just didn't have time"? No words, no excuses work to bring someone back from the dead. Where there is no help, there is no hope.

TRANSPARENCY AROUND ENERGY PRODUCTION

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

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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Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, almost a quarter of the United States' energy-related greenhouse gas emissions are from fossil fuels that are produced from our Federal lands and waters. However, recent Government Accountability Office reports show that we don't have very good data on much of these emissions, including the methane gas that is released that is leaked, vented, and flared.

The first step on the path to reducing carbon pollution is simply to know what we are dealing with: What are the greenhouse gas emissions, and where are they coming from? That is why I am pleased to introduce a common-sense, bipartisan bill with my friends in the Climate Solutions Caucus and the congressional Safe Climate Caucus, which would simply require the Department of the Interior to calculate and publish, online, the amount of climate-damaging greenhouse gas pollution from oil, gas, and coal extracted from our Federal lands and waters.

I urge the chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources to move swiftly to hold a hearing on this bipartisan bill and provide the American people with the transparency around energy production that they deserve.

PHYSICIAN SHORTAGES

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

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, a recent study in the American Medical Association found that, in the next 10 years, we could be facing a shortage of over 100,000 physicians. To help combat this extreme doctor shortage, I have introduced the GO MED Act.

My bill would implement a program to reallocate unused medical residency slots paid for by Medicare on a rolling basis to States feeling the worst effects of the physician shortage. It is widely accepted that where medical residents learn, they stay and practice.

But in 2014, Medicare only paid for 137 residency slots in my State; whereas, the top 25 States average over 3,000 positions. That is because of an outdated system. We don't have opportunities for students to stay in Nevada.

Nevada isn't the only State getting shortchanged. The top five States receiving funds through this program account for nearly half of what is spent annually.

If we are serious about addressing access to care, my bill is a step in the right direction.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, Moultrie, Georgia, May 15, 2016:

Jordan Croft, 22 years old;
Reid Williams, 21;
Jones Pidcock, 21;

Jonathan Edwards, 21;
Alicia Norman, 20.
Vallejo, California, February 11, 2013:
Oscar Garcia, 22 years old.
Jackson, Mississippi, March 7, 2013:
Ronald Williams, 33 years old;
Kendra Hill, 28.
New Port Richey, Florida, February 9, 2015:
Louis Wayne Lunceford, 44 years old;
Shane Newland, 42;
Justin Huckleby, 25.
Fremont, Ohio, March 9, 2014:
Ramiro Sanchez, 28 years old;
Police Officer Jose Andy Chavez, 26;
Daniel Ramirez, 25.
Douglasville, Georgia, February 7, 2015:
Latoya Andrews, 33 years old;
Joseph Terry Brown, 33;
Jeremiah Andrews, 9;
London Andrews, 7.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HOWARD AREA LIONS CLUB

(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 congratulate the Howard Area Lions Club located in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District.

The Howard Area Lions Club recently celebrated their 40th anniversary. The club has consistently earned the recognition as the largest Lions Club in Pennsylvania. There are probably many factors that have led them to this title, but none more significant than their commitment to the Lions Club motto, "We serve."

The members of this club have served as the chartering organization for Howard Scout Troop 353. I have been honored to serve as a Scoutmaster of their troop since they first assumed this responsibility.

The Howard Area Lions operates a food bank that provides access to food for those struggling to make ends meet, including driving food to those individuals that have limited transportation. Very few community needs are addressed in the local community where the Lions are not a part of the solution.

Mr. Speaker, as a fellow Lion, I am honored to offer my congratulations to the members of the Howard Area Lions Club. I am confident they will continue to serve the needs of their neighbors and communities.

WE ARE UNWAVERING IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL

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

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I stand in support of the bilateral military aid package agreed upon by our Nation and the State of Israel this week.

Israel, our greatest ally in the Middle East, faces threats from all sides:

shells from Syria are landing in the Golan Heights; Hamas terrorists are stockpiling weapons in Gaza; Hezbollah fighters are gathering in Lebanon; and ISIL is fighting for control of the Sinai.

Yet, surrounded by this chaos and terror, Israel is still dedicated to democracy, liberty, and justice—the same ideals we live by as Americans. This is why our relationship is so strong and why we must continue to support Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state.

This aid agreement makes it crystal clear to our enemies and allies that we are unwavering in our support for Israel and will help defend them against all who threaten their sovereignty.

ZIKA REGISTRY PROGRAM FOR WOMEN AND INFANTS

(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, yesterday I introduced the pregnancy and infant Zika registry. This bill will establish a CDC registry program for pregnant women and will track infants up to the age of 5 so that researchers can get a better understanding of the Zika impact.

This registry will collect information on pregnancy and infant outcomes following laboratory evidence of Zika virus infection during pregnancy. The data collected will be used to update recommendations for clinical care, to plan for services for pregnant women and families affected by the Zika virus, and to improve prevention of Zika virus infection during pregnancy.

I invite all my Floridian colleagues and fellow Members to cosponsor this bill. It is a responsible tool to increase our knowledge of Zika and help increase the quality and standard of care for patients.

END HUNGER NOW

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

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as we recognize September as Hunger Action Month, I rise to draw attention to the widespread problem of hunger among teenagers.

While our Nation's recovery is progressing, 7 million teens remain food insecure, and we know they often face additional hardships. Today the Urban Institute is briefing Members of Congress and their staff on two new reports that highlight these circumstances and explore how teens cope with hunger.

Among a number of troubling conclusions, the report finds that teens fear the stigma of being hungry and often refuse to accept food or assistance. They skip meals and sometimes turn to dangerous behaviors just so their parents or siblings can eat. They often feel