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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 26, 2016.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MAC THORNBERRY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 5, 2016, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RIGELL) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

You alone can trace the deepest fault lines of history and read the highest aspirations of the human heart. You fulfill Your promises day by day and lead Your people to greatness. You are the one who asks each of us to live a life worthy of our calling. Be with the Members of the people's House this day. Give them sound judgment and make them as practical and 'street wise' as the American people who sent them here as their representatives.

Help them to withstand open criticism when they know what is right before You and conscience. Often they are characterized by half-truths and attributed motives that are far beneath them. Uphold them at such times, with personal integrity and compassion for those most in need.

Having called them to serve others to the best of their ability, lift them even higher by Your grace and power to live and work for Your greater honor and glory, both now and forever.

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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

STOPPING PRESIDENT FROM CIRCUMVENTING CONGRESS

(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, last week, I was grateful to join Senator TOM COTTON from Arkansas to introduce a bill which would stop the President from circumventing Congress by signing the U.S. onto the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty without the required Senate approval.

This legislation is clear. Matters related to nuclear deterrence and national security should be the job of Congress and not an unaccountable, international body. Nuclear deterrence is the basis for preserving peace through strength to protect American families. That is why the legislation pledged to defund the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization Preparatory Commission if the President relinquished sovereignty over testing of nuclear weapons, putting American families at risk of attack.

Just days after introducing the legislation, the U.N. Security Council approved a meaningless resolution that merely encourages all nations to sign the ban on nuclear testing weapons around the world. This bill reinforces the Senate's constitutional authority to approve all international treaties.

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

AID FOR FLINT, MICHIGAN

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, last week, Republicans introduced a bill that would fund the government for 2½ months but does not include any help

□ 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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whatsoever for my home community of Flint, Michigan, struggling with water that was poisoned by State government—no help from Congress, despite the fact that Members of Congress, in both parties, on both sides of the aisle, have expressed their concern, have asked what they can do, and have traveled to Flint.

The majority held hearings that concluded that there was clearly Federal responsibility—this is according to Republicans on the Oversight and Government Reform Committee—Federal responsibility for what took place in Flint. Yet, despite the fact that we are including important provisions to keep the government open and providing relief to people in Louisiana who are struggling, which I support, no help for Flint—despite, also, the fact that the language that we are asking to be included is language that passed the Senate 95-3 and is fully paid for.

So those that oppose helping Flint can't say it is because we can't afford it, because it is fully paid for, and can't say it is a local problem, because Republicans and Democrats have already concluded that there was a Federal role. The only cost to the Federal Government is the cost of printing ink on paper to include this legislation in the continuing resolution. We have to include Flint.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF STUDENTS' DISAPPEARANCE IN MEXICO

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 2-year anniversary of the disappearance of 43 students from the Raul Isidro Burgos Rural Teachers' School in Ayotzinapa, Mexico.

Sadly, Mexican authorities have yet to secure any criminal convictions or to uncover the whereabouts of these disappeared students. I strongly urge the Mexican authorities to continue to search for the students, to bring to justice those responsible for the disappearance, and to investigate the possible obstruction of justice by public officials.

Two years is too long—too long for the students' grieving families and too long for those of us who care about justice and human rights in Mexico. Let's not let another anniversary pass without answers.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE CASCADE MALL SHOOTING IN BURLINGTON, WASHINGTON

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

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the five individuals who were killed this past weekend in a mass shooting at the Cascade Mall in Burlington, Wash-

Sarai Lara was a 16-year-old sophomore at Mount Vernon High School, a cancer survivor, and her mother described her as her "right hand."

Chuck Eagan was a Boeing maintenance worker from Lake Stevens, Washington. He had two daughters. He was planning on retiring next year.

Shayla Martin was a 52-year-old from Mount Vernon and a makeup artist at the Macy's where the shooting took place.

Belinda Galde was a 64-year-old from Arlington, Washington. She had served the public for more than two decades as a probation officer at the Snohomish County District Courts.

Beatrice Dotson was Belinda's mother. She was 95 years old.

I honor these five individuals and express my condolences to their families and their friends, and I honor and I thank the law enforcement officials whose quick investigation led to the capture of the suspected shooter in less than 24 hours.

Finally, I offer condolences to the community of Burlington, Washington, which is undoubtedly struggling to make sense of this senseless gun violence that was brought to their doorstep.

SMALL-SCALE WEATHER RADARS IMPROVE STORM DETECTION

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the scientists at the University of Massachusetts Amherst on their development of small-scale weather radars to improve storm detection. With funding from the National Science Foundation, these researchers developed neighborhood weather radars that have the ability to sense hazards on a street-by-street scale.

These devices automatically adapt scans to focus on the most powerful parts of a storm. This innovative system will save money and lives as it alerts citizens and emergency personnel of impending danger before storms arrive.

The researchers developed algorithms that pinpoint the exact location and velocity profile of a tornado by converting the information in the time series data on successive radar pulses into velocity data. The real-time information produced by this system will give researchers clues about weather patterns that will make weather detection even more sophisticated and accurate.

This and other lifesaving technologies should be the priority of Congress and the continued work of scientists through the National Science Foundation.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID ACT OF 2016

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1877) to amend section 520J of the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for mental health first aid training programs, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1877

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Mental Health First Aid Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING GRANTS.

Section 520J of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-41) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by inserting "MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS" before "TRAINING"; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking "ILLNESS" and inserting "HEALTH";

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting ", veterans, law enforcement, and other categories of individuals, as determined by the Secretary," after "emergency services personnel";

(C) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "to" and inserting "for evidence-based programs that provide education to teachers, personnel, and other categories of individuals described in paragraph (1) on at least"; and

(ii) by striking subparagraphs (A) through (C) and inserting the following:

"(A) recognizing the signs and symptoms of mental illness; and

"(B) either—

"(i) resources available in the community for individuals with a mental illness and other relevant resources; or

"(ii) the safe de-escalation of crisis situations involving individuals with a mental illness.";

(D) in paragraph (7), by striking "\$25,000,000" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting "\$14,963,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 through 2021."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?