

Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers, Dr. Daniel Dreisbach reminds us of the influential role the Bible served in the lives, thoughts and ideas of our nation's Founding Fathers.

The Bible was the most accessible book to our Founding Fathers and gave them insights on human nature, civic virtue, political authority, and the rights and duties of citizens that informed them as they formulated established the structures of government.

On a more personal level, I believe that the Bible is not simply an inspirational book or a comforting book—although it is that. But, I believe the Bible to be the holy word of God. It tells us the story of God's love for us. It is a story of redemption for those who would put their faith and trust in Christ alone.

John 3:16 tells us that "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

For me, as a follower of Jesus Christ, this is not only comforting and inspiring but it is True and the Bible is a guide for my life.

Each day—and the older I get—I am reminded of the comforting Truth in Job Chapter 19. Written centuries before the birth, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, we were told of our redeemer. The one who would save us.

For I know that my Redeemer lives,  
And He shall stand at last on the earth;  
And after my skin is destroyed, this I know,  
That in my flesh I shall see God,  
Whom I shall see for myself,  
And my eyes shall behold, and not another.  
How my heart yearns within me!  
Job 19:25-27

This promise reminds me of the Lord's love for me—no matter what the circumstances of life.

Maybe it's been a while since you poured over the pages of the Bible. Maybe it's been collecting dust on a shelf. Take it down and read once again the truthful and comforting words of God preserved for us and given to us as a gift.

I thank my colleagues for reserving this time for me to join you in sharing what the Bible means to me and hundreds of millions of others across the world.

## RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 0025

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL) at 12 o'clock and 25 minutes a.m.

## REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1, TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 17, 2017, THROUGH NOVEMBER 24, 2017

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report

(Rept. No. 115-410) on the resolution (H. Res. 619) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, and providing for proceedings during the period from November 17, 2017, through November 24, 2017, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

## ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1679. An act to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 26 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until today, Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

## EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3161. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Troy M. Shoemaker, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3162. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Calcium Carbonate [Docket No.: FDA-2016-C-2767] received November 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3163. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Additives Permitted in Feed and Drinking Water of Animals; Ammonium Formate and Formic Acid [Docket No.: FDA-2014-F-0988] received November 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3164. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Central African Republic that was declared in Executive Order 13667 of May 12, 2014, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3165. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3166. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting reports concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); Public Law 92-403, Sec. 1(a) (as amended by Public Law 108-458, Sec. 7121(b)); (118 Stat. 3807); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3167. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a notification of a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3168. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a notification of a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3169. A letter from the Acting Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's FY 2016 Commercial and Inherently Governmental Inventories, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3170. A letter from the Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a notification of a vacancy and designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

3171. A letter from the Branch Chief, Endangered Species Listing, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for *Dalea carthagensis* var. *floridana* (Florida Prairie-clover), and Threatened Species Status for *Sideroxylon reclinatum* ssp. *austrofloridense* (Everglades Bully), *Digitaria pauciflora* (Florida Pineland Crabgrass), and *Chamaesyce deltoidea* ssp. *pinetorum* (Pineland Sandmat) [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2016-0090; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BB48) received November 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3172. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing Policy and Support, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Textual Descriptions of Critical Habitat Boundaries for Plants on the Hawaiian Islands [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-ES-2015-0009; 4500090023] (RIN: 1018-BA80) received November 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3173. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Approval of Corrosion-Inhibited Copper Shot as Nontoxic for Waterfowl Hunting [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2015-0073; FFO9M21200-178-FXMB1231099BPP0] (RIN: 1018-BB06) received

November 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3174. A letter from the Conversation Policy Advisor, National Wildlife Refuge System, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — 2017-2018 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-NWRS-2017-0005; FXRS12650900000-178-FF09R26000] (RIN: 1018-BB75) received November 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3175. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a legislative proposal, styled the "Coast Guard Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3176. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Veteran's Employment and Training Service, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — HIRE Vets Medallion Program [Docket No.: VETS-2017-0001] (RIN: 1293-AA21) received November 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

3177. A letter from the Office of the Secretary (OOREG), Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Ecclesiastical Endorsing Organizations (RIN: 2900-AP83) received November 13, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 619. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018, and providing for proceedings during the period from November 17, 2017, through November 27, 2017 (Rept. 115-410). Referred to the House Calendar.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. RASKIN (for himself and Mr. JORDAN):

H.R. 4382. A bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 4383. A bill to reform the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. LEE, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. CORREA):

H.R. 4384. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide protected

status for certain aliens present in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 4385. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to restrict direct-to-consumer drug advertising; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 4386. A bill to establish a grant program that encourages States to establish subgrant programs that encourage recipients to create, maintain, and improve digital fabrication laboratories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 4387. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to increase the allocation for rural areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 4388. A bill to prioritize, in certain substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery programs, the treatment and recovery of addicted minors, and individuals responsible for the care of dependent minors who are at risk of entering the foster care system; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 4389. A bill to amend section 428 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to set aside funds for case management services for residents of permanent supportive housing for homeless persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GIANFORTE (for himself and Mr. DUFFY):

H.R. 4390. A bill to reauthorize the rural emergency medical service training and equipment assistance program under section 330J of the Public Health Service Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GUTIERREZ, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 4391. A bill to require the Secretary of State to certify that United States funds do not support military detention, interrogation, abuse, or ill-treatment of Palestinian children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. COURTNEY, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 4392. A bill to provide that the provision of the Medicare Program: Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs final regulation relating to changes in the payment amount for certain drugs and biologicals purchased under the 340B drug discount program shall have no force or effect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 4393. A bill to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to clarify that employees of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China are to be treated as covered employees for purposes of such Act; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 4394. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make available a public option for health insurance coverage for individuals residing in an area without a qualified health plan available through an Exchange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ELLISON (for himself, Mr. EMMER, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. GALLEGO, and Mr. HECK):

H. Res. 620. A resolution strongly condemning the terrorist attack in Mogadishu, Somalia on October 14, 2017, and expressing condolences and sympathies to the victims of the attack and their families; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. RASKIN:

H.R. 4382.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution and the First Amendment to the Constitution

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 4383.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution grants Congress the power to raise revenue

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 4384.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 4385.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18 of the United States Congress

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 4386.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 4387.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 4388.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 4389.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GIANFORTE:

H.R. 4390.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. MCCOLLUM:

H.R. 4391.