

fact, the Congressional Budget Office recently predicted that a 10-year reauthorization of CHIP would actually save the Federal Government \$6 billion. It turns out preventing illness not only saves lives, it saves money.

There is no excuse for leaving CHIP unfunded. Working families like David and Jacob's family need to know that they will have health care when their kids need it. David and Jacob are children whose lives are at stake, but there are millions more like them in Oregon and across the country.

Mr. Speaker, David and Jacob deserve better. All of our Nation's children deserve better. It is that simple, and we must not let them down.

SUPPORTING THE BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVORS PROTECTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FITZPATRICK). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, on Friday thousands of people from all across America will come to Washington to march in support of the dignity and equal protection of every God-given human life in this great land. It is in that spirit that I rise to join my colleagues in supporting H.R. 4712, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. This bill ensures that, if a baby survives a failed abortion, that baby must be given the same medical care as a baby born under any circumstances.

In a moral society, the strong have a responsibility to protect the weak. It is a stain on the moral fabric of our Nation that some lives are deemed less worthy than others with respect to protection.

America is a city on a hill whose light shines bright for all the world to see. That light is dimmed, however, as long as the dark practice of leaving a baby to die continues.

It is my hope that even those who believe in abortion can recognize that a baby who survives a botched abortion should be afforded the same protections that you and I are.

This week, we celebrate not only the March for Life, we also celebrate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. In his day, Martin Luther King, Jr., worked tirelessly, in the face of enormous adversity and personal risk to himself and his family, to help all of us as Americans live up to the highest of our American ideals: the self-evident truth that all men are created equal.

Through his work, King helped our Nation better realize its charter for forming a more perfect Union. Mr. Speaker, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act builds on King's legacy by ensuring that the unalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are protected for everyone, especially for those whose voices have been silenced.

Passing this legislation would restore some of our Nation's light that has

been lost and make our Nation a more perfect Union than it was yesterday. That, after all, is our job.

In the words of the great American hero, Martin Luther King, Jr.: "It is always the right time to do the right thing."

Let's do the right thing, and let's protect these helpless little babies.

RECOGNIZING SOPHIA CAMPA-PETERS

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege of representing one of the most courageous little girls in all the world, Sophia Campa-Peters. She may be a little girl, little in stature, but there is nothing small about Sophia's heart and her courage.

She has suffered, for the last 3 years, with a rare disease that has caused her to have multiple strokes, and she is now facing the biggest challenge in her journey, major brain surgery.

God says: "Come to Me as little children." Sophia represents the faith of a child like nobody I have encountered since I have been in this office, and she requested that I help her rally the world to pray on January 24 that, while she is having that surgery at Boston Children's Hospital, we would encourage people and implore people to pray for her.

I was delighted and honored to join her and many others in asking folks to take a knee and appeal to the Great Physician to protect her, to heal her, and to make provision for her to have a strong, healthy, and happy life for many, many years to come.

What a testament to her faith in God and the power of prayer. What a testament of someone who, in the face of trial and tribulation, would choose hope, would choose to believe, would choose to dream that her best days are ahead of her.

Thanks, Sophie. Thank you for your faith. Thank you for your testimony. Thank you for your courage. And most of all, thank you for teaching us that every day is an opportunity, every day is a gift from God.

Sophia, we are rallying the world for you. We will pray for you, and we will appeal to Almighty God on your behalf.

God bless her. God bless her family.

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 11 minutes 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. COMER) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask Your special blessing upon the Members of this people's House. They face difficult decisions in difficult times, with many forces and interests demanding their attention. In these days, give them wisdom that they might execute their responsibilities to the benefit of all Americans.

Give, as well, on this day, acknowledging religious freedom in our land, confidence to all people who are concerned about the issues most pressing in our Nation at this time.

May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

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.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas 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. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI), the whole number of the House is 431.

SOARING STOCKS

(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, all American families benefit when the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at a record high of nearly 26,000 last week. Students benefit as college endowments grow, reducing tuition costs. Retirees benefit as their retirement accounts appreciate. With increased liquidity, jobs are created for small businesses.

It is undeniable that the stock market, with the positive leadership of President Trump, has soared.

Rush Limbaugh was correct on his program today that the growth is unprecedented. One year after President Trump was elected, the stock market increased by 28.5 percent. Today, the Dow Jones hit another record high, up over 7,200 points since the 2016 election. Since the start of the year, the stock market has already reached six new record highs.

I am grateful for the leadership of President Trump, who has tweeted this achievement, with the leadership of Speaker PAUL RYAN and House Republicans. This has promoted economic growth through the anticipation and enactment of bills creating immediate jobs, reduced regulations to allow small businesses to begin hiring again, and reformed our Tax Code so that families will be able to keep more of their hard-earned paycheck.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

MEDIA DISDAIN FOR THE AMERICAN FAMILY

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we already knew, from their daily attacks, that the media disdained the President. What we didn't know with a certainty, until last week, was that the media also disdained the American family.

How else to explain their front-paging and televising, at all hours, a four-letter expletive that would be seen by children across America?

CNN reportedly used the word 195 times in one day. Sad.

There was a time when the media would show some respect for family values, but no more. Words that might have been omitted or not spelled out are now broadcast in their entirety. That is the media's decision to make, but it is a poor decision for the American family.

HONORING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY

(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 on Religious Freedom Day to celebrate the numerous faiths that people hold across this great Nation.

Today, we commemorate the 232nd anniversary of the passing of a State law that has shaped and secured our important legacy on religious liberty.

On January 16, 1786, the Virginia General Assembly passed the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom. The bill, written by Thomas Jefferson, states: "... all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinions in matters of religion. . . ."

Just a few years later, this bill served as the inspiration for the First Amendment, which affirms our right to choose and exercise faith without government coercion or retaliation.

Today, Americans from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds remain committed to the values of faith, honesty, integrity, and patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, our Constitution and laws guarantee Americans the right not just to believe as they see fit, but to freely exercise their religion.

We observe this day in our homes and schools and houses of worship because we have the freedom and the right to do so.

LORI LOWERY SHOWS THE BEST IN TEXAS

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, the people of my hometown of Sugar Land, Texas, are amazing.

Last Thursday, something terrible happened on a road I drive on every day at home. On Interstate 69, an 18-wheeler jackknifed during heavy rain. It flew off an overpass, crashing down on a small Toyota Camry. Look. That Camry is about 3 feet tall.

The first miracle is that the driver, Karan Singh, is still alive. The second miracle that day is named Lori Lowery. Lori is training to be a nurse, most likely across the street at the University of Houston Sugar Land. The crash happened right in front of her. She jumped out of her car, crawled through metal and broken glass, and got Karan out.

Lori Lowery shows the best in Texas and my hometown of Sugar Land, and I am proud to call her my boss in Congress.

PUERTO RICO DESERVES BETTER

(Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, 4 months after Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, 40 percent of our people still lack electricity, with a system barely patched up. Of almost 80,000 homes approved to receive the temporary "blue roof," only half of them have been installed.

Those are only two examples. The hurricane season will be back in 5

months, and then we will be required to start all over again. The situation demands extreme urgency from all Federal agencies.

What is taking so long? Where is the sense of urgency?

This would never be tolerated in any State.

The provisions of the Stafford Act limit us to only patching things up. The supplemental disaster appropriations bill addressed this, but it is stalled in the Senate.

We expect better. We deserve better. We will work to lift ourselves up, but we need the tools to do so. We expect the Federal agencies to act urgently.

BENEFITS OF THE TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

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

Mrs. HANDEL. Mr. Speaker, last month, the House passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Already these pro-growth policies are having a positive impact. Businesses are making investments in operations and people.

Thane Brooks operates a resource center for children with special needs in Alpharetta, Georgia. Because businesses can now immediately expense new equipment purchases, Thane is able to open a second facility to serve even more special needs children.

Georgia-based Aflac announced that it will increase contributions to employee retirement plans. AT&T, with nearly 3,000 employees in the Sixth District, gave a \$1,000 bonus to non-management employees as a direct result of the tax cut bill.

Overall, more than 2 million workers across the country are feeling the benefits of this law through increased wages, bonuses, and more retirement dollars. And with paychecks for nearly every American set to increase in the coming weeks, there is even more good news on the horizon for American families.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 12, 2018.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Dear MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 12, 2018, at 11:15 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without an amendment H.R. 984.

That the Senate passed without an amendment H.R. 4641.

Appointment: