

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 gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BABIN 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.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 3, 2018.

Speaker PAUL RYAN,
The Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: I write to inform you that I will resign from the office of U.S. Representative, effective 5:00 PM EST, Monday, January 15, 2018. For the past seventeen years, it has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve the people of Ohio as a Member of Congress.

I thank you for your leadership as Speaker and wish you all the best in future success.

Sincerely,

PATRICK J. TIBERI,
Representative to Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 3, 2018.

Hon. JOHN R. KASICH,
Riffe Center,
Columbus, OH.

DEAR GOVERNOR KASICH: I am writing to inform you that I will resign from my seat effective 5:00 PM EST, Monday, January 15, 2018.

It has been an unimaginable privilege to serve the people of the 12th district of Ohio for the past seventeen years. Throughout this time, I have been honored to have worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to strengthen our nation and improve people's lives. However, I am equally proud of the outstanding constituent services my office has provided to help countless central Ohioans solve myriad problems with the federal government. Public service is a sacred trust with those we represent, and I hope I have been able to make a difference in people's lives.

It was a distinct honor to succeed you in Congress, and thank you for your leadership as governor to make Ohio an incredible place to live, work, and raise a family. I wish you all the best in continued success.

Sincerely,

PATRICK J. TIBERI,
Representative to Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REPUBLICAN REFORMS CREATE JOBS

(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 had the opportunity to visit every county in the district I represent on an annual agenda day tour. I shared with local media and constituents the legislative agenda for 2018, as well as my appreciation for the Republican tax reform bill, which has already created jobs.

While walking through Walgreens 2 weeks ago, the owner of Mooneyhan's Auto Service, Bill Mooneyhan, told me that, as a direct result of Republican tax cuts, he is adding a new bay to his shop.

Nephron Pharmaceuticals of Cayce, led by Lou and Bill Kennedy, announced an annual \$1,000 pay increase and is adding 125 jobs in Lexington County.

American Airlines and Aflac are adding jobs, while countless other businesses are providing pay increases and bonuses for their employees.

I am grateful for the leadership of President Donald Trump, Speaker PAUL RYAN, Majority Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Whip STEVE SCALISE, and Chairman KEVIN BRADY. I thank them for providing much-needed tax relief for citizens to create jobs.

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

Best wishes to Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman ED and Marie Royce on their decision to conclude service in Congress.

URGING THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION TO ENFORCE THE FLIGHT SAFETY LAW

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, each year we are reminded of the day that Continental Flight 3407 crashed in western New York. This tragedy forever changed our community and stole the lives of husbands, wives, sons, daughters, sisters, and brothers.

In their grief, the families of Flight 3407 bravely turned their loss into a powerful force for change. With their leadership, Congress enacted strong and landmark aviation safety reform legislation. That reform exactly aligned with what the National Transportation Safety Board concluded: that the crash was avoidable, and that pilot error and failed training procedures were the causes.

We have new leadership at the Federal Aviation Administration, and I strongly urge him to swiftly enforce the flight safety law. We, the members of the western New York delegation and the families of Flight 3407, will be watching closely.

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this Friday, January 12, marks the eighth anniversary of the devastating earthquake that took the lives of 250,000 Haitians and left unimaginable destruction. Local south Florida organizations, led by Haitian Women of Miami, will hold a silent march at 4 p.m. this Friday to mark the occasion, walking from Northwest 62nd Street to North Miami Avenue to the Little Haiti Cultural Center.

These past 8 years, the people of Haiti have shown incredible resolve, even after being hit by Hurricanes Matthew and Irma recently, and, sadly, there is still much work to be done, Mr. Speaker.

Many Haitians came to the United States after these natural disasters seeking safety and security. Sadly, the administration terminated the Temporary Protected Status, TPS, to these individuals, forcing them to return to a devastated Haiti that is still struggling to rebuild.

As we mark this sad anniversary, we must reaffirm our commitment to helping Haiti move forward, and that must start by calling upon the administration to reverse its decision to terminate TPS for Haiti.

OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING IS A RISKY PROPOSITION

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Trump administration proposed opening up all of the coast of the United States of America to offshore oil drilling. This is a very risky proposition for my home State of Florida. Our economy depends on tourism, clean water, a strong fishing economy, and we have a military mission line off of the West Coast of Florida that has to be protected from drilling.

We are not that far removed from the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster that caused loss of life, billions of dollars in economic damage, and significant environmental damage as well. Why would we put our economy, our environment, our military missions at risk for such a risky proposition?

There may be appropriate places to drill for oil, but it is not off of the coast of the State of Florida.

My Republican colleague FRANCIS ROONEY and I have cosponsored a bipartisan bill, the Florida Coastal Protection Act, H.R. 2002. I urge the support of the Congress in turning back this very risky proposal for offshore oil drilling by the Trump administration.

IF YOU DON'T WANT A TAX CUT, MAIL IT BACK TO THE IRS

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

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, some folks in Washington are upset because we just passed the largest tax cut in American history. They think this money is Washington's money and that politicians and bureaucrats should decide how to spend it.

I could not disagree more. You and I know that this money belongs to the American people, came right out of their wallets.

Under our new law, we put hard-working families first by helping them cope with the cost of raising children by doubling the child tax credit. We also help small businesses by cutting their taxes so that they can compete with foreign companies and create jobs right here in America.

Well, for those folks who don't think they need an extra \$1,500 or so, or who think politicians and bureaucrats can spend their money better, I have a solution: go ahead and drop your new refund check in the mail. Send it to the IRS. They will be glad to take your money.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Children's Health Insurance Program that so many of our vulnerable young people depend on for their healthcare coverage. Across the country, 8 million young people use CHIP, more than 300,000 people in Illinois alone. But their coverage and, consequently, their health and future are now in jeopardy because this House has failed to reauthorize the program for the first time in 20 years. Yesterday marked 100 days since the authorization lapsed.

Before the new year, Congress temporarily extended limited funding, but the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is already warning that some States won't have funding to make it through the month of January.

It is beyond shameful that this House can pass trillions of dollars in tax breaks for those with the most security but not see its way to provide health insurance for the children most in need.

This is a vital program. This is a popular program. This is a program that traditionally enjoys bipartisan support. There is no reason to continue to extend the uncertainty.

I urge my colleagues to act and reauthorize the CHIP program as soon as possible to offer much-needed stability to families and their children depending on this coverage.

CELEBRATING LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION 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. Madam Speaker, I rise today, on Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, to commend law enforcement officers throughout our Nation who answer the call to serve their communities.

Law enforcement officers face increasingly difficult circumstances while working to serve and protect the public. It is a dangerous job, and often it is a thankless job.

Our officers put on their uniform each day knowing that they can be in harm's way at any moment. They answer the call in times of distress. They follow the rules, and they wear the badges proudly.

This day is designated annually, on January 9, to show support to our law enforcement leaders in every community, including the Capitol Police, who are with us here today.

Madam Speaker, we must remember that our officers are mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, husbands and wives. They are human, and they, arguably, have one of the most difficult jobs in America.

So today, and each day, let's honor our brothers and sisters in blue. Let's thank them for the important work that they do to keep us all safe.

LET'S KEEP THE GOVERNMENT OPEN

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

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, the Republican majority spent the entire year of 2017 in this House essentially stacking the deck for the most powerful interests in this country. That tax bill, you look at it closely, it grants massive benefits to people at the very top of the economy, at the cost of over \$1 trillion in debt that our children and grandchildren will have to pay back.

Now, with just 10 days to go before another potential government shutdown, and a shutdown which would cost our economy billions of dollars, we still have not gotten a budget. Despite the fact that Republicans control the House, they control the Senate, they control the White House, and they have consolidated power, they can't keep the government open for more than a few weeks at a time.

The way we have to do this is to work together across the aisle. We are willing, but we can't be brought into the conversation 15 minutes before the government is going to be shut down; and we ought to deal with the big priorities that we were sent here to deal with, where we agree.

We agree on CHIP, at least the majority of the House does. Bring it to the floor for a vote.

We agree on DACA. A majority would vote for a Dreams bill. Let's just work on the things we can agree on and leave the partisan fights to those areas where we really disagree. This is long overdue.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today again to call on my colleagues to quickly pass a 5-year extension of the Children's Health Insurance Program. Around 85,000 Iowa children rely on CHIP for their health. If we don't act, families and children will suffer.

This is not a Republican issue or a Democrat issue, and we must pass a solution together. Families should not be worried about losing coverage for their children.

And the fact that this Congress cannot muster the ability to pass a long-term extension of CHIP is confounding, to say the least.

We must quickly set aside any political games, come to the table, and work together to pass a long-term CHIP funding bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to set aside any political games or partisan brinksmanship and come together and fully fund CHIP. The health of our children is at stake.

□ 1215

REMEMBERING SISTER CATHERINE PINKERTON

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Catherine Pinkerton, who journeyed from us during this past Christmas season in Cleveland. She had attained the age of 96.

Sister Catherine was a Roman Catholic Sisters of St. Joseph order for 78 years. She rose to serve as president of her congregation, and she was also selected to lead the national Leadership Conference of Women Religious and was awarded its Outstanding Leadership Award in 2006.

She worked as the founder of NETWORK, the social justice lobby, urging Congress to care for the needy and the sick, and she became a tireless advocate in these Halls of Congress for justice, especially for the poor and oppressed. One of her greatest victories was pushing for the passage of the Children's Health Insurance Program, which insures 9 million of America's children.

In 2008, Sister Catherine was invited to deliver the benediction at the Democratic National Convention, and she urged Americans to "call forth and affirm as leaders of this Nation, persons