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House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

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

We come to You today, humbly, to ask Your blessing upon the Members of this people's House. Help them to do the work that needs to be done.

Bless all those who worry that their needs may not be addressed in a timely fashion. May those who possess power here in Washington be mindful of those whom they represent who possess little or no power and whose lives are made all the more difficult by a failure to work out serious differences.

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

Amen.

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 gentle-woman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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

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

THE HOUSE HAS DONE ITS WORK

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, all the news today is about the Schumer shutdown. The House has done its work. The economy is booming. We passed a massive tax cut before the end of the year, which is bringing raises and prosperity to all segments of our economy. What is the problem?

The problem is the Democrats in the United States Senate. The Democrats in the Senate are holding government funding hostage. The people protecting this country will continue to work but won't get a paycheck; this includes firefighters, Border Patrol, and servicemembers.

We have a short-term funding bill ready for the President to sign, but Democrats are standing in the way. Democrats are endangering our national security, our veterans, and our children. The insurance of 9 million children is at risk because CHIP would not be reauthorized.

Mr. Speaker, it appears as though the Democrats want to take away attention from the wonderful economy we have. We need to pass this bill and move on

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF COMPLETE GOP CONTROL

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today is the first anniversary of complete Republican control of our government—the President, the Senate, the House.

When they wanted to deliver their tax plan, the largest transfer of wealth to the richest Americans, they could move with lightning speed. Bipartisanship? Democrats were completely shut

out. Although, to be fair, Republicans didn't even know what they were voting on.

DREAMers weren't here illegally until Donald Trump ended the DACA program. If the Republicans had the courage to allow bipartisan legislation on the floor to fix this problem, it would pass overwhelmingly.

The Republicans had known for months that the important and popular CHIP program would end this fall. If they would allow the reauthorization on the floor, it would pass with 400 votes and save us \$6 billion over the next 10 years.

Republicans should use their complete control of government to govern. And if they can't agree amongst themselves and want our help, then work with us, but don't hold the American public and their government hostage to your most extreme Members and their radical ideas.

PRESIDENT TRUMP IS SUCCESSFUL

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

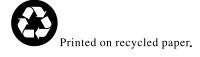
Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for American families that today marks the first year of the Presidency of Donald Trump. We can rejoice in his successes of promoting peace through strength abroad and economic opportunity at home; that America is being restored as a beacon of freedom and liberty.

ISIS is now really being defeated with his call for victory supporting our military. The economy is booming with jobs and skyrocketing stock markets. His dedication for all Americans is clear, as African-American unemployment is at a 17-year low and Latino unemployment is at a record low.

The Democrat response has been mean-spirited obstructionism of resistance. Last month, Senate Democrats

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 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.



opposed the tax cuts, which clearly benefit workers. And now, last night, Senate Democrats shut down the government in an ugly effort to smear the President while distracting the American people from the President's achievements on his anniversary.

I have just learned, in fact, that Senate Democrats are closing National Guard armories across our States today at noon, putting our military readiness and troops at risk.

I am confident that, with the positive leadership of Speaker PAUL RYAN, House Republicans will continue to be the adults in the room for American families.

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

Thank you, President Trump, for your heartfelt address to the historic March for Life yesterday on The Mall.

IT IS TIME WE GET BACK TO WORK

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, we are about 9 hours into the Schumer shutdown, which is basically Senate Democrats holding the United States—320 million people—hostage over an executive order made by President Obama to benefit 690,000 people here illegally, the DACA program.

The DACA program has nothing to do with funding the government for the next 4 weeks. There is plenty of time to continue to address the conversation on DACA, which is underway on a bipartisan basis, for something that is due in 2 months.

President Trump rightly decided to rescind what was done by a previous executive order so we can abide by the law and put a good law in place that addresses border security; chain migration; and what to do with those here illegally, which there is a lot of sympathy for across this country for those minors who are here under DACA.

Mr. Speaker, it is time we get back to work and put this country to work again and not hold 320 million Americans ransom in order to do this for a handful of illegal immigrants in this country.

We need to get back to work and reopen the government so we are not shutting down the CHIP program we passed, the National Guard, et cetera.

THE HOUSE REAUTHORIZED CHIP

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, last November, more than 2 months ago, this House passed the reauthorization for the Children's Health Insurance Program, known as CHIP.

The House again passed the reauthorization for CHIP this week, but last

night, in addition to voting "no" on CHIP, CHUCK SCHUMER and the Senate Democrats voted "no" on keeping the government funded, and here we are.

The funding that Senate Democrats rejected last night includes funding for our Nation's servicemembers, tens of thousands of whom are deployed throughout the Middle East, the Pacific, and Korea.

They could have voted "yes" to the families waiting for the Children's Health Insurance Program and "yes" to our troops, but they did not.

There is no excuse for this. The issues of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and securing our border are being negotiated separate and apart from this funding bill and CHIP, and there are serious proposals to address these issues.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Senate Democrats to change course, end the Schumer shutdown, and do what is right for the American people: pass the government funding and Children's Health Insurance Program that we sent over days ago.

OPEN THE GOVERNMENT

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

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great frustration with the partisanship that is being shown about a bipartisan program to help children and about keeping our government open.

The Children's Health Insurance Program provides affordable and comprehensive medical coverage for children under 19 whose families do not qualify for Medicaid but cannot access insurance through a private plan.

Thousands of my constituents rely on this program, and we are trying to reauthorize it for 6 years, the longest in the program's history.

Mr. Speaker, there is nothing controversial about CHIP. Keeping the government open is a fundamental responsibility of Congress, and a government shutdown is irresponsible and unproductive. We must provide certainty to servicemembers and Federal workers who rely on a functioning government to support their families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues, particularly those on the other side of the aisle, to prevail upon Senate Democrats to open the government up. We can continue these important policy discussions with an open government.

THE TRUMP TRAVESTY CONTINUES

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the Trump travesty continues, as it has for the last 12 months. We have heard our colleagues on the other side of the aisle

talk about the Children's Health Insurance Program. They are very concerned about its passage. Bring it to the floor. It will pass. And I guarantee you it will pass in the Senate.

Your Speaker, our Speaker, said: "We will advance major legislation one issue at a time."

Mr. Speaker, that is not what the bill you put on this floor did. It is not what the bill that is on the Senate floor did.

You are right. There is no controversy. Government should not be shutting down. It is the Trump confrontation and chaos that continues. That is why this government is shut down, and the American people are rightfully upset with every one of us; not just Republicans, not just Democrats. They are upset that their government is not working.

Mr. Speaker, bring these issues one at a time to this floor, and some will pass and some will not.

My time has expired, but the people's time is expiring. Let us do our work one issue at a time.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY

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

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, last night, on the eve of the first anniversary of President Trump's inauguration, President Trump earned an F for leadership.

President Trump and congressional Republicans' obsession with passing a tax scam to benefit the wealthiest in our country and corporations has blinded them to their responsibilities to the American people.

Despite controlling the House, the Senate, and the White House, the Republicans were so incompetent, so negligent, that they couldn't get it together to keep the government open.

They could get it together to pass a tax credit, 83 percent of which benefits the top 1 percent, but they couldn't get it together to pass CHIP and its fuller complement to meet the needs of America's children and families and seniors.

President Trump said about President Obama at the time of the 2013 GOP government shutdown: "I mean, problems start from the top, and they have to get solved from the top. And the President is the leader. And he's got to get everybody in a room, and he's got to lead." President Trump then.

President Trump now, as President, President Trump tweets: "Our country needs a good 'shutdown."

Your wish has come true for your 1-year anniversary because of all-around incompetence, inefficiency, and prioritizing with all your heart and soul that 1 percent at the expense of the rest of the country.

Now, there is no such thing, as we know, as a good shutdown of the government. Republicans' total inability