Engel Larson (CT) Quigley Espaillat Lawrence Raskin Esty (CT) Lawson (FL) Rice (NY) Evans Lee Roybal-Allard Foster Levin Ruppersberger Frankel (FL) Lewis (GA) Rush Fudge Lieu, Ted Sánchez Gabbard Lowenthal Sarbanes Gallego Lowey Schakowsky Luján, Ben Ray Gomez Schiff Gonzalez (TX) Schneider Maloney, Carolyn B. Green, Al Scott (VA) Green, Gene Scott, David Massie Griffith Matsui Serrano Sewell (AL) Grijalya McCollum Gutiérrez McEachin Sherman Hanabusa McGovern Smith (WA) Heck McNerney Higgins (NY) Meeks Soto Meng Swalwell (CA) Hover Moore Takano Moulton Thompson (MS) Jackson Lee Nadler Jayapal Tonko Napolitano Jeffries. Torres Johnson (GA) Nolan Vargas Johnson, E. B. Norcross Veasey Kaptur O'Rourke Vela Kelly (IL) Velázquez Pallone Khanna Pascrell Visclosky Kihuen Pavne Wasserman Kildee Pelosi Schultz Kilmer Perlmutter Waters, Maxine Krishnamoorthi Watson Coleman Peters Labrador Pingree Welch Wilson (FL) Langevin Pocan Price (NC) Larsen (WA) Yarmuth

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—2

DeFazio Lofgren

NOT VOTING-28

Jenkins (WV) Blackburn Ros-Lehtinen Capuano Royce (CA) Jones Kennedy Cramer Ryan (OH) Maloney, Sean Culberson Shea-Porter Davis, Rodney Neal Smith (TX) DeSantis Noem Speier Ellison Renacci Titus Eshoo Richmond Tsongas Gianforte Rooney, Thomas Walz Huffman

□ 1049

Messrs. SANFORD and SUOZZI changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of inquiring of the majority leader the schedule for the week to come.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. McCarthy), my friend, the majority leader.

(Mr. McCARTHY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday and Tuesday, no votes are expected in the House.

On Wednesday, the House will meet at noon for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

On Thursday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning hour and noon for legislative business.

On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. Last votes are expected no later than 3 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, the House will consider a number of suspensions next week, a complete list of which will be announced by close of business today.

In addition, the House will consider H.R. 3798, the Save American Workers Act, sponsored by Representative Jack-IE WALORSKI. This package of bills will reduce unnecessary burdens on employers by restoring the 40-hour full-time workweek, providing relief from the employer mandate, delaying the Cadillac tax until 2023, and saving small businesses time and money in compliance costs.

Mr. Speaker, the House also plans to vote on the conference report to accompany H.R. 5895, the Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs Appropriations Act of 2019.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, additional legislative items are possible in the House, including WRDA, which represents a critical investment in America's infrastructure. As soon as items are added to our schedule, I will be sure to inform all Members.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his information. And the minibus that he referred to is what we refer to, I guess, as the first minibus. Has that conference report been completed at this point in time, Mr. Leader?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Not at this moment, but I hope that it will be today. All the reports are there. It is just finishing a very few items, and I expect it to be done today.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information. Mr. Speaker, we have some 7 days left to go, and, of course, next week is essentially one full day, and then we have 4, maybe 5 days the following week, depending upon what is necessary.

I would ask the majority leader, does he contemplate us trying to effect a continuing resolution for those appropriation items which have not been addressed in the next 7 days? And if so, how long does he expect that continuing resolution to go?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his question. Just as I announced, next week, the House is expected to send the full year appropriations for three bills directly to the President's desk. And just this week, we entered into conference with the Senate on six additional bills. These nine bills make up 87 percent of the discretionary budget and represents the most appropriation bills in conference at any point in the last 20 years.

I am encouraged by the work our committees are doing, and I believe that we are making good progress. As soon as further items are scheduled for the floor, I will be sure to inform the Members.

But the gentleman's question is about a continuing resolution. I want

to focus on appropriations, because we have never been at this point in the last 20 years, and I would like to get as many, if not all of them, done before we depart, and we can deal with the continuing resolution with whatever is left when that moment comes.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. I hope his optimism is met because I think that would be a better thing for us to do, so I appreciate that observation.

Let me ask the gentleman as well, if we accomplish what he suggests that we might accomplish over the next 7 legislative days, there will still be a needed CR. Assuming we adopt a resolution which will fund all of government through a particular time, both because we passed appropriations bills, your point being that there are nine that are possible to pass with three remaining.

The gentleman has scheduled, as of now, for us to be meeting the first 2 weeks in October.

\Box 1100

Obviously, Members are very interested in whether or not that schedule will be kept or whether there is a possibility that assuming we do, in fact, fund government to some date, either through the year, the next fiscal year, or for a period of time, for those bills that have not passed and been signed by the President, does the gentleman still contemplate that we will be here the first 2 weeks in October?

I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I have no changes to the schedule at this time, but I am always encouraged. If we get all of our work done, there wouldn't be a point to be here. But as of now, we don't have our work done, so we will need to finish the job.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that. I would hope that, for scheduling purposes for all Members, we could make that decision by the end of next week so that Members would have the opportunity to plan. I realize full well that it depends upon whether or not, in fact, we get the work done, which is why I was asking about the CR.

In addition to that, the gentleman has mentioned a couple of bills, but the Violence Against Women Act, the farm bill, and the FAA, as the gentleman knows, expire on September 30. Does the gentleman expect us to be dealing with those bills in one form or another?

I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the gentleman knows, in the farm bill, we are still in conference on that; and then additional items, I would like to deal with and get done before we depart, yes.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, so the gentleman's hope is to vote on these conference reports prior to the 30th of September?

I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I continue to monitor the conference reports.

Î was talking to Chairman Conaway just this week, along with his counterparts over in the Senate. They are making progress. But as we know, I was hopeful that the first minibus, that we could have voted on that today. But I do think the conference will finish up for us to be able to vote on that next week

So as these come together, as soon as they are done, I would like to be able to vote and finish as much business as we can before the end of the year.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that observation.

My presumption, therefore, is, if the conference cannot come to agreement, I would presume that we would have an extension on those three bills and others that might need that. Is that accurate?

I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his question.

I do not want to slow the conference for their work and others, but I would like to see us finish that. And, of course, we do not want those items to expire, so we would deal with that at the appropriate time. But as of now, if we can solve them and vote for the continuation, I would take that up first.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the information.

I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RICHARD M. DEVOS

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, it was with a heavy heart yesterday that we learned of the passing of Richard M. DeVos. Sr.

Rich, along with his wife, Helen, who passed away in October of 2017, dedicated their lives to transforming west Michigan and making our community an even greater place to call home. Frankly, it is hard to imagine what west Michigan would look like without Richard DeVos and his leadership.

Through his philanthropic activities, Rich led by example. He put a premium on supporting educational institutions across west Michigan, such as Grand Rapids Christian High School, Calvin College, and Grand Valley State University.

He was equally passionate about west Michigan residents having access to high-quality, specialized medical care.

He also worked to enrich the arts across Michigan, including by supporting his grandson, Rick, in establishing ArtPrize, which has opened up so many opportunities for Grand Rapids.

He was also very involved with many projects at Hope College in Holland, Michigan. Generally, anything that helped make the community thrive, Rich was fully behind.

As significant as those achievements are, his impact on west Michigan's economy was even greater and simply cannot be understated. Through his business sense, passion, and servant's heart, he created economic opportunities for countless west Michigan residents.

Despite his monumental influence, Rich was as approachable and down to earth as they come. Rich generally cared about his community and the people he shared it with.

Thank you for all you have done for west Michigan, Rich; and while your legacy will live on, know that your leadership and friendship will be deeply missed.

Rest well, Rich. Rest well, knowing you ran a race well done.

UPDATE THE EQIP PROGRAM

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

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, as the farm bill conference committee begins their negotiations, I rise today to urge conferees to include a provision important to Delaware farmers.

Many of our farmers utilize cost share programs under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, known as EQIP. The program provides growers with funds to make necessary farm improvements, while also mitigating environmental risks.

Farmers know what they need. They should be able to access these funds when they anticipate a problem, not after one has cropped up. That is why, this morning, I join my Delaware colleagues, Senators Carper and Coons, in urging the farm bill conference committee to include updates to the EQIP program so farmers can get access to the funds sooner, reducing their costs and environmental footprint, while promoting stewardship of our cherished farmland.

Tweaking the EQIP program may seem like a small change, but it produces big wins for Delaware's farmers and our environment. I urge my colleagues to include this language in the conference report.

SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE ATROCITIES IN SYRIA

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to continue to speak out against the atrocities being committed in Syria by the brutal dictator, Assad, and his evil collaborators and coconspirators, Russia and Iran.

I commend President Trump for taking a stand against the reckless attack on Idlib province and the tens of thousands who could be killed.

I am proud of the work that Arkansans are doing in Syria, particularly in Idlib province, on behalf of the Syrian people. Through the work of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, led by a Syrian American, an Arkansan, Mouaz Moustafa, Arkansans are directly supporting the reopening of a kindergarten and women's center in Idlib province.

I am especially concerned about the tragic consequences and loss of life that an assault, particularly a chemical weapons assault, on Idlib will have on this vital kindergarten and work for women there.

I stand in support of the President's recent message but call on him to strengthen his resolve against Assad's brutal actions and to continue to support the innocent Syrian people.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ZEBEDEE STRONG

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Zebedee "Zeb" Strong.

Zeb was from Kilgore, Texas, and was raised on a cattle farm down in the oil-fields there. But when he came to Arlington and settled in that city, he left a strong legacy.

He worked at his alma mater, which was the University of Texas at Arlington, known as UTA, for 25 years. As director of multicultural services and recruitment, he really embodied the spirit of the UTA campus. He served as an adviser for over 40 student organizations and mentored so many students.

Zeb was someone whom I first met when I was a congressional staffer back in the 1990s, and he was someone who really helped me out a lot as I was beginning my career in that field.

He was also dedicated and committed to volunteer work at Big Brothers & Big Sisters, and he was also one of the individuals who was really the driving force behind starting an African American studies program at UTA.

He was also one of the founders of the Arlington African American Chamber of Commerce and the Arlington chapter of the NAACP.

My prayers and condolences go out to his four children and his wife, Sheri, who lost Zeb unexpectedly.

But I want the family and friends of Zeb Strong to know that he was such a uniting force. If you walked around the campus of UTA at any moment, anyone, from any background, would come up to Zeb and they would feel like Zeb was their best friend because that was just the type of gentleman that he was.

My prayers, again, go out to the family.