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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Deputy Parliamentarian, Jason Smith, offered the following prayer:

God, we thank You for this day and for all the Members of the House that are here, both new and current Members-elect. We pray that they will all be wise in all of their duties on this day and for the rest of the Congress and the new Congress.

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 gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

(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, I am honored to commemorate the 60th anniversary of one of our top educational institutions in south Florida: Christopher Columbus High School.

Since its inception in 1958, Christopher Columbus has graduated bright and talented young men who have made lasting contributions to our community and our country. Through superior academics, dedicated staff, and a strong commitment to its students, it is no surprise that Christopher Columbus has been awarded numerous accolades, such as ranking in the top 50 Catholic schools in the Nation.

As you might expect, an institution with a reputation like this one is fortunate to have some world-class alumni. Christopher Columbus graduates include: Mayor Carlos Gimenez of Miami-Dade County; members of the Florida Supreme Court and State legislature; and even Pedro Jose Greer, a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Mr. Speaker, it is institutions like Christopher Columbus High School that define the pinnacle of education for young men in our country, and I congratulate the school for this fantastic milestone. I thank Christopher Columbus for all that it has done for our beloved south Florida community, and here is to the next 60 years.

Go Explorers.

ATTORNEY GENERAL SESSIONS FIRING

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, time and time again, President Trump has sought to undermine the independence of the Justice Department and its investigation into the Russian election interference led by Special Counsel

Robert Mueller. The President's recent decision to fire Attorney General Jeff Sessions is just the most recent example.

The President's effort to put the Mueller investigation under the supervision of an acting attorney general, Matthew Whitaker, with his long and vocal history of bias against this very investigation, is simply unacceptable.

The Mueller team must be allowed to finish its work without interference. This is more than just knowing what happened in 2016. It is imperative that we learn from the past to protect our Nation from future threats.

I urge the acting attorney general to do the right thing: recuse himself and return supervision of the investigation to Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

I ask my colleagues in Congress to exercise our responsibility in upholding the rule of law and pass legislation that would protect the special counsel from a politically motivated firing. I await the findings of the special counsel and will follow the facts wherever they lead.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

(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, this weekend, the world recognized the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, which ended on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918.

As a 31-year veteran, son of a Flying Tiger, and father of four sons who have served in the military overseas, I have a personal appreciation for service-members and families. South Carolina has a long history of patriotic military service, including in World War I. Our State is grateful that eight South Carolinians received the Congressional

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



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Medal of Honor, which was bestowed upon only 78 veterans for the Nation during the war.

I appreciate representing Fort Jackson, which was created in 1917 as the United States entered the Great War. Each time I meet our soldiers, I am so impressed by their professionalism of the troops and their leadership.

Let us never forget the sacrifices to preserve America while liberating occupied allies. Freedom is not free.

I thank VA representatives Lee Becker and Brendon Gehrke for the commemorative pin.

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

YEMEN RULE

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

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, last night, House Republicans on the Rules Committee voted to undermine our democracy by blocking the American people and Members of Congress from having a debate and the ability to vote on a bill that would end U.S. support for Saudi Arabia's genocidal war in Yemen: a war that has created the world's worst humanitarian disaster in generations, leaving 22 million people in dire need of humanitarian aid, tens of thousands of civilians killed, and many more vulnerable to mass starvation, famine, and cholera outbreaks.

Don't be fooled. If Congress and this administration truly were concerned about the plight of the Yemeni people and peace, all U.S. support for Saudi Arabia's atrocities would end now.

Instead, last night, on the Rules Committee, Republicans voted to shut down debate to prevent a vote that would end U.S. support for Saudi Arabia in Yemen.

Later today, Congress has the opportunity to do the right thing. We are faced with a choice.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on House Resolution 1142 so that Congress can fulfill our constitutional role, debate, and vote on this critical issue. It is long overdue that we end U.S. complicity in Saudi Arabia's atrocities. We must end all U.S. support for Saudi Arabia's genocidal war in Yemen now.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

(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 to recognize November as National Adoption Month.

During this month, we celebrate and reflect on the life-changing act of adoption. Many parents and families across America open up their homes, and their hearts, to children in search of a stable support system; to children in

search of a forever home. Unfortunately, there are so many children in the foster care system who are still waiting to find a permanent home.

In 2017, more than 442,000 children and teenage youth were in U.S. foster care. More than 59,000 of these children were adopted through the system, and we must always strive to help more children find a home.

All children deserve a permanent family that can provide them with love, support, and encouragement so they can reach their full potential in life.

Mr. Speaker, during National Adoption Month, we recognize the unconditional love and support adoptive parents provide to their children, and we hope that all children will soon be welcomed into a loving family because they deserve no less.

DEMOCRATS ARE COMMITTED TO WORK FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES ON DAY ONE

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, Michiganders went to the polls and elected a new Democratic majority.

Because of this, I have the privilege of welcoming four new Michigan Democratic Members of Congress, folks who are committed to passing meaningful policies that will help everyday Americans. This means reducing the cost of healthcare. Prescription drug prices are too high. No one should have to choose between filling a prescription and feeding their family.

These new Members are ready to work to protect Social Security and Medicare from cuts that Republicans have been proposing. We are pleased that we are going to be able to have these new allies in this fight.

My own hometown of Flint knows firsthand the price of failing to invest in infrastructure. It is important that this Democratic majority advance a broad and meaningful infrastructure bill to fix our broken roads and bridges, and to repair our damaged water systems.

It is past time that we took on these issues. I am anxious to welcome these new Members of Congress who are committed to moving this bold agenda forward.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR BRENT TAYLOR

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

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, as we recognize Veterans Day this week, I would like to pay tribute to the life and sacrifice of Major Brent Taylor.

Major Taylor and I had the great privilege of serving together as mayors of each of our hometowns in Utah.

Brent first enlisted after the terrorist attacks on September 11 and

quickly became a major in the National Guard. He served in Afghanistan and twice in Iraq before returning to Afghanistan for what would become his fourth and final tour.

On November 3, Major Taylor was tragically killed in an insider attack by one of those he was trying to help.

As our communities, State, and Nation mourn this tragic loss, his dear wife, Jennie, reminded us why so many choose to serve this great country. In her words:

The price of freedom surely feels incredibly high to all those of us who know and love our individual soldier. But the value of freedom is immeasurable to all who know and love America, and all that she represents.

Let us never forget those who have given their lives, their families, and their futures for our precious freedoms.

May God bless the Taylor family and others who grieve, and may God bless America.

HONORING VETERANS DAY

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, every time I go home, the people of Kansas never cease to inspire me. This Veterans Day, it was my hometown of Great Bend and my home county of Barton County who inspired me.

On Veterans Day, not only did we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the armistice ending World War I, but we also dedicated a new veterans memorial and veterans cemetery. I was so proud to be part of this dedication ceremony and join the 300 Kansans who braved snow and sleet in freezing cold to honor our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be part of such a community which holds veterans in such high esteem.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1546

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YODER) at 3 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6784, MANAGE OUR WOLVES ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM NOVEMBER 19, 2018, THROUGH NOVEMBER 26, 2018

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1142 and ask for its immediate consideration.