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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. BASS).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 13, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable KAREN BASS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

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

In the waning days of the First Session of the 116th Congress, help the Members of the House, and those of the Senate, to act wisely and carefully in the important work they do.

And as our Nation passes through this holy season for millions of Americans, may there be goodwill in our communities, and peace and reconciliation where those virtues are so sorely needed.

May all that is done within the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

REAPPOINTMENT TO COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment, effective December 16, 2019, pursuant to section 2 of the Civil Rights Commission Amendments Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 1975), and the order of

the House of January 3, 2019, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Commission on Civil Rights for a term expiring December 15, 2025:

Upon the recommendation of the minority leader:

Mr. Peter N. Kirsanow, Cleveland, Ohio.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 7(a) of House Resolution 758, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 2 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SHERMAN) at 4 p.m.

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, December 13, 2019.
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM 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 December 13, 2019, at 2:33 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 23. Appointment:

Board of Visitors of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Johnson.

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, December 13, 2019.
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2

(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on December 13, 2019, at 3:30 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits to the Congress legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States—Mexico—Canada Agreement.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk of the House.

□ 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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H10261

UNITED STATES—MEXICO—CANADA AGREEMENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-86)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (the “Agreement”). The Agreement is an important part of my Administration’s efforts to rebalance trade in North America and to modernize our trade relationship with Mexico and Canada. The Agreement will create significant new opportunities for American workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses by opening markets in Canada and Mexico and eliminating barriers to United States goods, services, and investment.

Approving this Agreement is in our national interest. I look forward to the Congress expeditiously approving the legislation.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 13, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 7(b) of House Resolution 758, the House stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 14, 2019.

Thereupon (at 4 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Saturday, December 14, 2019, at 10:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

3297. A letter from the Deputy Secretary of the Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rules — Registration and Compliance Requirements for Commodity Pool Operators and Commodity Trading Advisors; Registered Investment Companies, Business Development Companies, and Definition of Reporting Person (RIN: 3038-AE-76-P) received December 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3298. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule — Registration and Compliance Requirements for Commodity Pool Operators (CPOs) and Commodity Trading Advisors: Family Offices and Exempt CPOs (RIN: 3038-AE76) received December 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3299. A letter from the PRAO Branch Chief, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s Major final rule — Supplemental Nutrition

Assistance Program: Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents [FNS-2018-0004] (RIN: 0584-AE57) received December 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3300. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule — Public Utility Transmission Rate Changes To Address Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes [Docket No.: RM19-5-000; Order No.: 864] received December 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3301. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Extension of Expiration Dates for Five Body System Listings [Docket No.: SSA-2019-0045] (RIN: 0960-AI45) received December 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. NEAL: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 5377. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the limitation on deduction of State and local taxes, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-345). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LAMB (for himself and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER):

H.R. 5428. A bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to direct Federal research on grid modernization and security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. STIVERS (for himself and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 5429. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to enable greater participation by seniors and Medicare beneficiaries in State Medicaid programs for working people with disabilities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HOYER (for himself and Mr. McCARTHY) (both by request):

H.R. 5430. A bill to implement the Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada attached as an Annex to the Protocol Replacing the North American Free Trade Agreement; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, the Budget, Transportation and Infrastructure, Financial Services, Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HASTINGS (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. McGOVERN, and Mr. COLE):

H.R. 5431. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide family and medical leave to employees of the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL (for herself and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 5432. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count toward the determination of full time equivalency for graduate medical education under the Medicare program time spent in an approved medical residency training program for training in culturally and linguistically appropriate care; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself and Mr. ROSE of New York):

H.R. 5433. A bill to require the disclosure of foreign business interests of senior Government officials and their spouses and family members, to require the President and Vice President to disclose their tax returns, to prevent political appointees from receiving payments from foreign entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. LAMB:

H.R. 5428.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. STIVERS:

H.R. 5429.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HOYER:

H.R. 5430.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, gives Congress the power “To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations . . .”

By Mr. HASTINGS:

H.R. 5431.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL:

H.R. 5432.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 5433.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8