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No. 209

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 30, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable G.K. BUTTERFIELD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rabbi Arnold E. Resnicoff, Chaplain, U.S. Navy, Retired, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we pray, reflect, and meditate in different ways, but as a year—a decade ends—and 2020 begins, may we reaffirm, united, the hope of Langston Hughes: “Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed.”

Dreamers dreamed a nation founded on equality, rights; a Constitution established for a more perfect union for liberty, for us, and our posterity. Our votes, oaths, and acts, must reflect those dreams.

With this decade’s last House prayer, we give thanks for progress, look ahead with hope, but with eyes wide open to prejudice, hatred, and terror, that remain—fueling violence like the anti-Semitic Hanukkah party attack Saturday; the Texas church attack Sunday—praying, Almighty God, for strength to dream the bravest dream our dreamers dreamed, our people dreamed:

“We shall overcome. We shall overcome. We shall overcome, some day. Deep in my heart, I do believe, we shall overcome, some day.”

And let us say, amen.

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.

REAPPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO UNITED STATES-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker’s reappointment, effective January 1, 2020, pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Authorization Act for fiscal year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), as amended, and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following individual on the part of the House to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission for a term expiring on December 31, 2021:

Ms. Carolyn Bartholomew, Washington, D.C.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 19, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to 22 USC 7002, I am pleased to appoint the following member to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission on behalf of the Speaker:

Mr. Michael Wessel, Falls Church, Virginia.

As previously agreed, because of the change in Congress and the presumed statutory intent of the Commission, I am appointing Mr. Wessel on behalf of the Speaker. As such, I am pleased to make this appointment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Republican Leader.

HOUSE BILLS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills of the following titles:

September 26, 2019:

H.R. 1200. An Act to increase, effective as December 1, 2019, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

September 27, 2019:

H.R. 4378. An Act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

September 30, 2019:

H.R. 1058. An Act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4285. An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

□ 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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October 9, 2019:

H.R. 1590. An Act to require an exercise related to terrorist and foreign fighter travel, and for other purposes.

November 8, 2019:

H.R. 1396. An Act to award Congressional Gold Medals to Katherine Johnson and Dr. Christine Darden, to posthumously award Congressional Gold Medals to Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, and to award a Congressional Gold Medal to honor all of the women who contributed to the success of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during the Space Race.

November 21, 2019:

H.R. 3055. An Act making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

November 25, 2019:

H.R. 724. An Act to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2423. An Act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

November 26, 2019:

H.R. 1123. An Act to amend title 28, United States Code, to modify the composition of the eastern judicial district of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

November 27, 2019:

H.R. 3889. An Act to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 to make technical corrections.

H.R. 4258. An Act to authorize the Marshal of the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court Police to protect the Justices, employees, and official guests of the Supreme Court outside of the Supreme Court grounds, and for other purposes.

December 5, 2019:

H.R. 5277. An Act to amend section 442 of title 18, United States Code, to exempt certain interests in mutual funds, unit investment trusts, employee benefit plans, and retirement plans from conflict of interest limitations for the Government Publishing Office.

December 12, 2019:

H.R. 887. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 877 East 1200 South in Orem, Utah, as the "Jerry C. Washburn Post Office Building".

H.R. 1252. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6531 Van Nuys Boulevard in Van Nuys, California, as the "Marilyn Monroe Post Office".

H.R. 1253. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13507 Van Nuys Boulevard in Pacoima, California, as the "Ritchie Valens Post Office".

H.R. 1526. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 Israel Road Southeast in Tumwater, Washington, as the "Eva G. Hewitt Post Office".

H.R. 1844. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 66 Grove Court in Elgin, Illinois, as the "Corporal Alex Martinez Memorial Post Office Building".

December 13, 2019:

H.R. 1972. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1100 West Kent Avenue in Missoula, Montana, as the "Jeannette Rankin Post Office Building".

H.R. 2151. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7722 South Main Street in Pine Plains, New York, as the "Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent Post Office".

H.R. 2325. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Calle Alondra in San Juan, Puerto Rico, as the "65th Infantry Regiment Post Office Building".

H.R. 2334. An Act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Odessa, Texas, as the "Wilson and Young Medal of Honor VA Clinic".

H.R. 2451. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 575 Dexter Street in Central Falls, Rhode Island, as the "Elizabeth Buffum Chace Post Office".

H.R. 3144. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier, California, as the "Jose Ramos Post Office Building".

H.R. 3314. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1750 McCulloch Boulevard North in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, as the "Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building".

December 19, 2019:

H.R. 5363. An Act to reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions, and for other purposes.

December 20, 2019:

H.R. 1138. An Act to reauthorize the West Valley demonstration project, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1158. An Act making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1865. An Act making further consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2333. An Act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the responsibilities, workload, and vacancy rates of Department of Veterans Affairs suicide prevention coordinators, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3196. An Act to designate the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope as the "Vera C. Rubin Observatory".

H.R. 4566. An Act to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of victims of the mass shooting in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on May 31, 2019.

SENATE BILLS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills of the Senate of the following titles:

October 4, 2019:

S. 163. An Act to prevent catastrophic failure or shutdown of remote diesel power engines due to emission control devices, and for other purposes.

S. 1689. An Act to permit States to transfer certain funds from the clean water revolving fund of a State to the drinking water revolving fund of the State in certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

October 9, 2019:

S. 239. An Act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe.

October 31, 2019:

S. 1196. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1715 Linnerud Drive in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, as the "Fire Captain Cory Carr Post Office Building".

November 7, 2019:

S. 693. An Act to amend title 36, United States Code, to require that the POW/MIA

flag be displayed on all days that the flag of the United States is displayed on certain Federal property.

November 22, 2019:

S. 862. An Act to extend the sunset for collateral requirements for Small Business Administration disaster loans.

November 27, 2019:

S. 1838. An Act to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

S. 2710. An Act to prohibit the commercial export of covered munitions items to the Hong Kong Police Force.

December 20, 2019:

S. 50. An Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 216. An Act to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, and for other purposes.

S. 256. An Act to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide flexibility and reauthorization to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages.

S. 1790. An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 7(b) of House Resolution 758, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Thursday, January 2, 2020.

Thereupon (at 10 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, January 2, 2020, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

3379. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the 6-month period of April 1, 2019—September 30, 2019, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

3380. A letter from the Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting the Commission's Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress for the period ending March 31, 2019, pursuant to Sec. 5(b) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

3381. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFIS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Jonah Crab Fishery; Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Jonah Crab [Docket No.: 191023-0070] (RIN: 0648-BF43) received December 18, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.