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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 5, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ADRIANO ESPAILLAT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

ABORTION AND INFANTICIDE ARE NOT WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, abortion and infanticide are not examples of women's healthcare.

Abortion advocates used to say they wanted abortion to be safe, legal, and rare. Today, they want abortion to be free, casual, and for newborns.

It is distressing to see the new levels of disregard they hold for new human

lives and how their language has fostered such numbness to the moral evil of abortion that there is now space in society to openly promote infanticide.

The Reproductive Healthcare Act, RHA, law being celebrated by pro-abortion activists in New York and Virginia's Repeal Act bill, which is supported by pro-abortion activists, legislators, and Governor Northam, are horrifying indicators of that attitude and the spreading culture of death.

This time, pro-abortionists have gone farther than ever before, by their own admission. Their actions fly in the face of the limits of abortion that most Americans support and lay bare the extreme agenda of the pro-abortion movement. Not only are they bent on the systematic removal of any protections for the unborn that exist in law, now they admit that they support infanticide.

The sponsor of Virginia's bill said that a baby could be "aborted," i.e., murdered, as he or she is being born. This should be a moment for reflection on the reality of the atrocities being committed in the name of so-called women's healthcare.

These extreme and disgusting advances by abortion advocates expose the reality of our culture's view of human dignity writ large. Society can't allow these actions to go unchallenged and still believe that the culture supports human dignity.

With their language, abortion advocates have been successful at dehumanizing the unborn and devaluing human life itself. The Repeal Act would further ensure that the life of a child remains unseen by repealing ultrasound requirements and the State's 24-hour waiting period before an abortion. It is as though society's "ignorance is bliss" mentality is a requisite for abortion advocates' agenda to strip unborn life of protection.

Thanks to the tragic decision of Roe v. Wade, abortion can be performed in

the U.S. in all 9 months of pregnancy for any reason related to a mother's health. The RHA preserves and expands Roe v. Wade's guarantees of access to abortion.

In New York, an abortionist no longer need be a licensed physician, and if an abortion is not successful and the child is born alive, the law has an absolutely barbaric provision that ensures the child still dies.

The RHA repeals section 4164 of New York's public health law. That section required abortions after 12 weeks of pregnancy be performed in a hospital and that abortions performed after 20 weeks have a separate physician ready to provide medical care for any infant born alive during the procedure.

This repealed section also protected children born after a botched abortion and required records to be kept of the infant's medical treatment. Without section 4164, infants who survive in an attempt to kill them in the womb have no legal right to life and could be denied the care they need to live.

It is clear that the value of life has eroded in our culture. Without a society that questions "what are the rights of the unborn?" New York and Virginia legislators can use their power to eliminate the right to life and promote the idea that life is dispensable, even in the case where a child is viable and the mother's life is not in danger.

Nothing warrants the evil of infanticide, yet calling abortion healthcare has become a widespread and acceptable justification for a woman to choose abortion over life. Meanwhile, supporting unborn life has come to mean being against women's choices.

As a woman and proud pro-lifer, I reject this deceptive language and the false narrative it perpetuates. I also encourage proponents of the New York and Virginia legislation to ask whether these policies reflect a society where women are truly valued or where unwanted babies are indefensible.

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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Finally, in a culture where aborted babies are collateral damage in so-called women's healthcare, we should all fear that, following unborn children and newborns, there will soon be new targets for disposal.

PROTECT THE INNOCENT CHILDREN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, as an obstetrician, I have delivered thousands of babies and helped moms through pregnancies for 25 years.

I stand before the House today disgusted by the murderous, barbarous legislation pushed by Democrats in New York legalizing abortions for any reason, all the way until the due date of the baby. This extremist antilife abortion measure is literally nauseating to me.

How sad it is that we live in a time when extremists are legalizing the murder of innocent, defenseless children. The legalization of these late-term procedures that amount to infanticide are the worst thing I have heard in my entire professional lifetime.

I call on my obstetricians and other physicians who deliver babies. I call on the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and all physician associations to openly denounce and refuse these murderous procedures. Legal or not, this is morally reprehensible.

As a father, a grandfather, a physician, and a human being who loves people, I cannot sit here in good conscience while this is going on, regardless of it being on a State level. I will do everything in my power to combat this position from spreading and protect these innocent children.

THE IMPACT OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ON FAMILIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, yet another instance of illegal immigration impacting real families has occurred in the western States, Nevada and California.

I thank President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump for honoring three people from my district tonight as guests for the State of the Union Address.

Sadly, Debra Bissell, Heather Armstrong, and Madison Armstrong will be here as guests because of the tragedy that happened in their life. They are the daughter, granddaughter, and great-granddaughter of Gerald and Sharon David, who were murdered in their home in Reno, Nevada, just this last month.

The murderer? An illegal immigrant from El Salvador who had been living in Carson City for over a year. No mo-

tive has been released, but, then, does the motive really matter to this family, to yet another loss of life due to illegal immigration and the sieve we have of a border in this country?

But Gerald and Sharon were two of four people who this man, whose name I will not mention, shot dead in their homes over the course of a week. The other two victims were Connie Koontz and Sophia Renken, from Reno, Nevada.

These brutal murders will have a tremendous impact on the families of each of these victims, including Debra, Heather, and Madison, whom we will meet tonight.

When we talk about border security, when the President speaks about it tonight, these three faces should serve as a reminder of the real-life consequences of our open border policy that this country seems to have.

This is not just a talking point or political football to be tossed around. Real people are being hurt—the ones left behind—lives are being ruined, as well as the lives being taken, time after time, because the Congress can't get its act together to get a bipartisan solution for border security, for a border barrier, and a combination of things that it will take to effectively run the border, to patrol our border, and to give our personnel down there all the tools they need to do it effectively, safely for the American citizens and safely for themselves.

It doesn't matter if you want to call it a wall, a fence, a physical barrier, or anything else. It is long past time to do something about the crime, violence, drugs, and human trafficking.

The human trafficking, we don't talk about that enough, what is really happening to the people who are being brought across who do want to come seek something better in America but are subject to the coyotes who take advantage of them, extracting dollars from them and unspeakable things from the women whom they bring across the border and the kids. It is long past time to do something about all those subjects that are currently moving fairly freely in our country.

For Debra, Heather, and Madison from Redding, California, they represent three generations in their family that has been devastated by the status quo of our border situation.

I am grateful that President Trump is shining a bright, unmistakable light on this issue and the urgency with which we must address it. Every single day we do nothing is another day that another family is being potentially harmed in some way by the inaction and inability on both sides of the aisle to come together to get something effective done.

I wish it wasn't under these circumstances that Debra, Heather, and Madison will have to be here tonight. Their grief must be immense. But tonight, their story will be front and center for all America to see. It is certainly no consolation, nothing to as-

suage the pain they must feel, but I hope their presence might help spark some positive change in this country that is long overdue.

I thank the President and First Lady, again, for inviting them. I thank Debra, Heather, and Madison for their courage in having to share this tragedy and go through the pain in order to help advance a cause of sovereign borders and safety for other American citizens who will, hopefully, not have to go through this.

I ask the American people to join us in praying for Gerald and Sharon David, for their family that will join us here tonight, for other victims and family members who have been taken by the senseless killing, and to pray that a solution happens so we don't have any more of this in this great land.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ESPAILLAT) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, thank You for giving us another day.

The people's House prepares to welcome the President of the United States this day, and other governmental, judicial, and military leadership of our Nation. The world watches as America's great experiment in civilian self-government is in high relief.

May all who populate these hallways this day be possessed of goodwill and a shared commitment to guarantee the freedoms and responsibilities inspired by the soaring rhetoric and subsequent actions of our American ancestors.

May all that is said and done in this Chamber today redound to the benefit of our Nation and the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr.