



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019

No. 72

## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

Reverend Jonathan Falwell, Thomas Road Baptist Church, Lynchburg, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Our gracious Heavenly Father, we thank You for this great Nation that we call home. We thank You for blessing us so greatly through these 243 years of American history.

The Bible says: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." So, today, Father, we ask Your forgiveness for the sins that we as a people, and we as a nation, have committed which have led us away from You.

We pray that You grant wisdom and guidance to all who serve in this room. We ask You to give clear direction as they set the course for our Nation, and we pray that You lead them as they lead us. We ask You to protect those who serve this Nation both here and around the globe.

And we ask You to continue to bless this great Nation that we call home.

In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania 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.

### WELCOMING REVEREND JONATHAN FALWELL

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize our guest chaplain, the Reverend Jonathan Falwell of Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Reverend Falwell has long been a leader in his community, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the United States. His sermons are delivered to thousands each week at Thomas Road, on television, and through the internet. Jonathan Falwell followed in the footsteps of his father, Dr. Jerry Falwell, as senior pastor of Thomas Road Baptist Church.

Jerry Falwell was founder of Liberty University, one of the largest Christian universities in the United States. In addition to his role as senior pastor at Thomas Road, Reverend Jonathan Falwell also serves as executive vice president of spiritual affairs at Liberty.

On this National Day of Prayer, I extend my thanks to Jonathan Falwell for his devotion to Christ, his family, and his community.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CASTEN of Illinois). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, last year was an abject failure in addressing the climate crisis. In both policy and real-world emission reductions in the U.S. and globally, we fell short. We cannot afford another year like it, and yet, 2019 is off to an ominous start.

The consequences of inaction on climate change are both dire and familiar. The lives and livelihoods of millions across the country and billions around the world are at risk.

Climate change is a national security threat, a food security threat, a housing issue, a transportation issue, an infrastructure issue, an immigration issue, a jobs issue, an energy issue, a financial issue, and a public health issue.

We cannot, in good conscience, claim to be adequately representing the people of our districts and our country and the world if we ignore or deny the dangers that climate change poses to the American public and the world.

I stand here in strong support of H.R. 9, the Climate Action Now Act, to reverse the shameful and dangerous course of the last 2 years and meet the challenge of climate change head-on.

### NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, today we observe the 68th annual National Day of Prayer, a day dedicated to bringing men and women of all faiths together in prayer for this great Nation.

Statistically, only about 14 percent of Americans read the Bible and pray on a daily basis. That is why this year's theme focuses on our love for one another, just as we learned in the teachings of Jesus in John 13:34: Love one another just as I have loved you.

This theme is just as important in our Nation today as it has been throughout our history. Right now,

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.



Printed on recycled paper.

H3409

America is a divided nation, and we are fighting for the values that this great country was founded upon. More than anything else we need unity.

Mark 3:24 says: If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. But to find unity, we must put our faith before our politics. We must do what is right for the American people. Why? Because our faith unites us in Christ.

Jesus prayed for us, in John 21:17, that: All of them may be one, Father, just as You are in me and I am in You. May they also be in us, so that the world may believe that You have sent me.

I encourage all Americans to join me in celebrating the National Day of Prayer and humbly come before God to seek his guidance on how we may become one America.

#### A FIRST STEP TOWARDS THE FUTURE OF CLIMATE ACTION

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to preside over the House during the debate on H.R. 9 yesterday to uphold our commitment to the Paris climate accord, our first real piece of climate legislation in over 9 years. It may have been an honor, but it was jarring to listen to my Republican colleagues in denial.

For decades, Americans have seen with their own eyes rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and temperature increases, all terrifying prospects for our children and grandchildren, yet Republicans are defending the Trump administration's action to undercut and isolate the United States as the only country to withdraw from the climate accord, placing us firmly on the wrong side of history.

In contrast, I am thankful that today's action demonstrates that Democrats are on the side of protecting our children's future. H.R. 9 is a first step towards a future of climate action and climate justice, a Green New Deal for clean energy jobs, rebuilding and renewing our infrastructure, sustainable agriculture, and environmental justice.

We can't afford to wait, and neither can the planet.

#### HONORING BEN REIFEL

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

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, in 1961, South Dakota's Ben Reifel became our Nation's first Lakota Indian in Congress.

He grew up dirt poor in a log cabin in rural Todd County. He dropped out after eighth grade but later graduated from South Dakota State and from Harvard.

Ben Reifel was respected in this Chamber. That gentleman was re-

spected in Indian Country. You see, throughout his career at the Bureau of Indian Affairs and for a decade here in Congress, he worked tirelessly to further economic opportunity for American Indians. Ben Reifel celebrated education, hard work, and self-determination.

Yesterday, I filed a bill asking that Ben Reifel's name be placed on the Mission Post Office. It is my hope that young American Indian boys and girls will see that name and realize that great American leaders have come, and will come again, from that place.

#### ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 9, the Climate Action Now Act, to ensure that the U.S. remains part of the Paris climate agreement.

Report after scientific report has told us that, when it comes to climate change, we are on a precipice. The status quo leads us over the cliff. The only way back is with immediate and earnest action. That is all of us together.

The Paris Agreement was meant to be a collective first step toward beginning to address climate change. We have a duty to ourselves, to our children, and to the rest of the world to not only join in that step forward, but to lead it.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in supporting H.R. 9.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE 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 May as National Foster Care Month. This is a time to recognize more than 400,000 foster youth in America. During this month, we renew our commitment to ensuring that every child has a safe and loving home.

Mr. Speaker, I am a member of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, and to this day, I have a foster brother as part of my family. I know firsthand how a loving, supportive home can make all of the difference in a young person's life.

More than 200,000 children enter the foster care system every year, which translates to a child entering care every 2 minutes.

All children deserve a safe, loving, and permanent home. We have a responsibility to continue to create policies that will improve outcomes in the overall well-being of foster youth and their families.

I thank every foster parent, volunteer, and mentor who works to make sure that the needs of our children are

not only being met, but giving them the opportunity to thrive in a loving home.

#### LEAD ON THE CRISIS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the opportunity we have today to lead on the crisis of climate change.

The climate change crisis is unlike any other that we have faced. It cannot be defeated on the battlefield; it cannot be cured; it cannot be wished away; and it, certainly, can no longer be denied.

What we can do is what we have always done and lead the community of nations to address a problem that would leave our children and their grandchildren with an unbelievable crisis and possibly a planet that they can no longer inhabit.

The Paris climate agreement was a set of targets that we developed that are not mandatory. The Paris climate agreement is about making a statement that this is a problem and a crisis, and that America will lead.

Today, this Chamber has an opportunity to say, yes, we will lead. We will not hide from the problem. We will not let this crisis distract us. We will lead.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9 today and to send a statement to the world that, as we have always done, we will lead on this global crisis.

#### RECOGNIZING HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join our friends in Israel and in the Jewish communities around the world in recognizing Israel's Holocaust Remembrance Day.

President Trump took the unprecedented step of proclaiming this week Holocaust Remembrance Week, and solidarity is one of our strongest allies in the entire Jewish community.

With the recent rise in anti-Semitic rhetoric amongst some, even in this House, it is important that we remember just how horrific and dangerous these ideas truly are.

More than 6 million Jewish people died at the hands of the Nazis during the Holocaust. Many who survived will never be able to escape the horrors of their experience. They emerged into a world that has changed them forever.

But the world has changed since then, too. No longer is that sort of hatred and bigotry to be accepted, and that is what we must affirm on this National Day of Prayer, via prayer, via our actions, for Jewish people as well