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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 24, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR 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 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

RECOGNIZING RALPH AND CHRISTINE BROWN

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

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we all have been privileged to know people in our communities who have led remarkable lives but are unsung heroes. Today, I want to highlight one such couple whom I have come to know and admire.

I rise to recognize Ralph and Christine Brown, a remarkable couple and role models for all the rest of us.

They grew up in families of very modest means. While working full time, Ralph began a one-man security business in 1963. What started as Lake Norman Security Patrol, Inc., expanded into two of the most successful businesses in North Carolina and the country: Security Central and AlarmSouth.

Ralph learned the importance of security while serving as a U.S. Army policeman and turned his knowledge into security and patrol services for homes and commercial entities.

At his side was Christine, his brilliant helpmate. They have a wonderful and philanthropic family that is carrying on the family tradition and business into the third generation.

Ralph and Christine's success has not only become a family legacy but has benefited numerous good causes in the community through their generosity, including the American Heart Association, the United Way, and Grandfather Home for Children.

Having inspiration and determination combined with hard work was their recipe for remarkable success. The Browns are proof that the American Dream is alive and well.

RECOGNIZING DKG IN REGION IX OF NORTH CAROLINA

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Region IX of the North Carolina State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society on their achievements at the State convention in Hickory, North Carolina.

Region IX makes up eight chapters across North Carolina's Fifth District and took home five achievement awards, three communications excellence awards, and two newsletter and website awards.

These recognitions speak to the chapter's success in its mission to promote the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

As an educator myself, I know the incredible difference it makes to have op-

portunities for mentorship, professional development, and scholarships.

The society invites members who are dedicated to education in different fields, both active and retired, to build up future leaders at the local level. As we all know, the local level is where the best practices and policies in education come from.

Knowing that young educators in the Fifth District have such talented and locally engaged women behind them makes me very proud. These women are shining examples of the powerful impact that organizing within our communities has on future generations.

NAACP AGAIN MAKES HISTORY

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, proud to be an American and, today, I would also say, proud to be a member of the Nation's oldest civil rights organization, the NAACP.

I am especially proud to be a member of the NAACP today because, yesterday, the NAACP became the first of the civil rights and human rights organizations to take a stand against bigotry, xenophobia, homophobia, Islamophobia, hatred, and racism by passing a resolution at its national convention calling for the impeachment of the President.

And still I rise, proud, Mr. Speaker, to be associated with this organization. This is not its first time taking a stand on behalf of the American people.

It was the NAACP that filed Shelley v. Kraemer and Barrows v. Jackson, outlawing restrictive covenants that prevented people of color from living in certain neighborhoods.

It was the NAACP that filed and won Brown v. Board of Education, which, literally, took on and eviscerated segregation—lawful segregation, I might add—in this country.

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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It was the NAACP that guided the Supreme Court of the United States of America for almost a quarter of a century under the leadership of Associate Justice Thurgood Marshall. He was the lawyer who took *Brown v. Board of Education* before the Supreme Court. He was the lawyer who was the chief legal counsel for the NAACP. He sat on the Supreme Court. He guided the Supreme Court.

The NAACP, again, makes history, and I am proud to be associated with this great organization.

Mr. Speaker, I would also add that we are now some 98 days since the Mueller report was called to the attention of the public, 98 days since it was made public, 98 days since the Chief Executive has been above the law.

Mr. Mueller is testifying today. Tomorrow, I will start another acid test wherein I will show the number of days that the President has been above the law since Mr. Mueller himself testified in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, we are living in some very challenging times—very challenging times—but Dr. King reminded us that the truest measure of a person in times such as this is not where you stand in those times of comfort and convenience but where you stand in these times of challenge and controversy.

I am proud to know that the NAACP stands for liberty and justice for all, stands for the people of the United States of America, as it has historically. And I shall continue to stand and be a member of the NAACP.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

KANSANS WANT CONGRESS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, the circus is back in town. I can hear the music all the way over here in the Capitol, the music of that merry-go-round going on in the Judiciary Committee right now, as we speak.

Yes, Mr. Mueller is here now for the fifth congressional hearing on this same issue, on this witch hunt. This is a cheap, made-for-TV television movie that is now going back and reviewing everything, allowing Mr. Mueller to sit there and read the report that he submitted days and weeks ago.

Mr. Speaker, the frustration is that, back home, we have done over 63 town halls, and I can count on one hand the number of times somebody has ever asked me about the Mueller report or Russiomania.

What Kansans want is for Congress to stand up and solve the problems in front of us.

The USMCA agreement, the NAFTA-2.0 agreement, is sitting on the Speaker of the House's desk. Nothing would

do more for Kansas right now, both Kansas agriculture and Kansas manufacturing, than to get that agreement passed. It would mean thousands of jobs for Kansans. It would mean hundreds of millions of dollars more income for Kansans as well.

We are tired of this witch hunt. We want to move on. We want to move on and fix problems. The problem is the Democrats don't want to challenge us on issues and on policy. Instead, they want to attack the President because their policies won't stand the test of the American public or the test of time.

BRING IRAN TO THE TABLE

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, we don't want war in Iran. We don't want war in the Middle East. We don't want war anywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I try to talk to my parents every week—every Sunday, typically. My parents seldom offer me advice, but the last thing my dad recently said to me was, "Roger, don't send our troops into battle."

Mr. Speaker, we must, however, make every effort to ensure Tehran does not have access to nuclear weapons. We must stop them from fueling global terror and endangering Americans and our allies around the world.

Like many other Kansans, I have served our country in uniform. None of us want war in Iran. That is not my goal, and it is not the President's goal. We must, however, guarantee Iran never has access to nuclear weapons and that they stop funding and arming terror around the world.

They are very evil actors. They are not a normal country. They seek the destruction of the United States and our closest ally in the Middle East, Israel.

I support any effort to bring Iran to the table for a deal that addresses both of these important goals. The best way to do this is to continue to apply maximum pressure on Iran.

Mr. Speaker, Iran has been responsible for the death of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of American soldiers during the Iraq war through their supply of IEDs. They chant "death to America," and as I said, they threaten our allies. This is an issue of great importance to the safety and security of this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, if I haven't said it before, we don't want war. We just want Iran to act like a normal country. Normal countries don't take other country's ships hostage. Normal countries don't shoot down American drones. Normal countries don't ship IEDs to terrorists to kill Americans. Normal countries don't fund terrorism.

We cannot sit idly by on our hands as we watch Iran seize ships and continue to hold the Nation hostage. Instead, I believe, like President Reagan and, before him, President Eisenhower, that we best have peace through strength. We need to keep the maximum pressure, keep the faith, work with our allies, and get Iran to the table.

My fellow Americans, please join me in prayer as our Nation's officials

make this effort to ensure peace and increase stability in the region.

USDA RULE CHANGE WILL KICK MILLIONS OFF SNAP

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the administration's proposal, its recent attack on some of the most vulnerable Americans, the 38 million people who rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, otherwise known as SNAP.

The USDA, United States Department of Agriculture, announced yesterday a rule change to the eligibility for the program. This change would kick millions of Americans—seniors, children, and their families—off a program that provides critical assistance. It is a safety net.

This change would weaken our ability to provide support for working people who are struggling to get by month to month.

It would have a huge impact in my district. Unfortunately, 25 percent of my constituents depend upon the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program monthly to provide nutrition for themselves and their families.

As a member of the conference committee that negotiated the 2018 farm bill, these suggestions were a part of the discussion. We opposed them. We fought successfully to include expanded SNAP eligibility requirements, and Congress agreed.

That is why I fought to expand the employment and training programs that we do in SNAP in the Fresno Bridge Academy, to equip recipients with the necessary tools to get back on their feet, to make them self-sufficient. That is what we should be doing.

Guess what: The President supported it when he signed the farm bill into law last December. He needs to remain consistent.

I will fight for families, for seniors, and for children. The bottom line is this: SNAP is a helpful program to support people in their time of need with achieving self-sufficiency. It is part of America's safety net.

We must block this egregious attempt to administratively do what Congress did not do last December.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand with me and oppose this attack on some of our Nation's most vulnerable populations.

HIGHLIGHTING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE HOUSE IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I call to the attention of the House of Representatives what we have achieved in the last 6 months, many of these pieces of legislation on a bipartisan basis.

We have passed 10 bills to reduce the price of healthcare; lower prescription drugs costs, which our communities want us to do; and strengthen protections for people with preexisting conditions—reducing the cost of drugs and