



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019

No. 157

House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

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

Though the House is entering a 2-week recess, and many Members will be returning to their districts to meet with constituents, we know that work will be getting done behind the overt political scene.

While important and significant issues are being addressed, may all Members be imbued with the wisdom of Solomon, the patience of Job, and proceed like Nathaniel, who was a man without guile.

In all, let there be more light than heat.

May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

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.

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WENSTRUP 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

THANK YOU, RHONDA E. FOXX

(Ms. ADAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate a talented young woman who has served as my chief of staff for North Carolina's 12th District for nearly 5 years, Rhonda E. Foxx.

While her career path will be taking on a new chapter beyond my office, without question, Rhonda has been an extraordinary and extremely valued member of my leadership team.

An energetic, innovative, creative thinker, Rhonda's bold leadership and talented initiatives guided Team Adams to cultivate new possibilities in higher education, diversity, and tech; as well as signature cooperative-inclusive partnerships between students and businesses and corporate and tech sectors, and historically Black colleges.

I, along with the entire Adams team, our stakeholders and our many partners are grateful for her leadership and

her service, and extend to Rhonda E. Foxx our best wishes, and Godspeed.

Mr. Speaker, I say, well done, Rhonda. I thank her.

CONGRATULATING SWEET CHEEKS DIAPER BANK

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank for opening their newest warehouse location in Lower Price Hill.

Since they opened their doors in 2015, these wonderful people have been a lifeline for women and children in the greater Cincinnati and northern Kentucky area.

Over the span of 4 years, they have donated over a million diapers that have, without doubt, changed the quality of life for so many infants.

Last month alone, Sweet Cheeks distributed over 135,000 diapers through 43 community partners. They also delivered health aid kits to women and schoolgirls who otherwise couldn't afford them.

This tremendous organization gives back so much to our community and, most importantly, gives so many women and children in my district a sense of dignity.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank on their newest warehouse location in Lower Price Hill and sincerely thank them for all they do for women and children in the greater Cincinnati area.

PFAS TASK FORCE

(Mrs. DINGELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in the House and on the

□ 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.

H8059

PFAS Task Force who have come to the floor this week to call on our congressional leadership, House Armed Services Committee, and all the conferees tasked with conferencing the fiscal year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act to include a strong PFAS package.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman SMITH for his leadership and tireless work crafting this year's NDAA. It is a good bill, and it includes many top priorities that will care for our service-members and keep the United States well defended, but we are in the midst of a growing nationwide human health and environmental crisis.

PFAS chemicals are harmful man-made toxic substances wherever they are found.

We know that there are up to 297 military installations that have confirmed PFAS contamination. This puts our military families at risk and the communities surrounding them at risk, and it puts our national security at risk if we do not include robust PFAS provisions.

The American people are counting on us to protect them, and we must include this provision. Our military is arguing that this needs to be cleaned up. Please keep PFAS in the bill.

NATIONAL CLEAN ENERGY WEEK

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Clean Energy Week, September 23 through September 27.

Clean energy throughout our world is critical in fighting climate change and making our world greener and more efficient.

Currently, only a small portion of our total energy consumption in the U.S. comes from clean energy, and we are going to need more innovation and a booming economy to continue raising the statistics for clean energy.

In this regard, Georgia has largely been leading the way. Over the past 5 years, we have been one of the top ten States in solar power, all without State tax credits or mandates. 175,000 homes are powered by solar, an increase of 13-fold over the last 5 years.

I am proud of the State of Georgia's work and hope the rest of the Nation will follow our lead. However, while we boost our clean energy, we cannot forget the importance of a consistent, reliable energy supply, as well as the importance of energy independence to our homeland security.

While I personally subscribe to an all-of-the-above energy strategy, I encourage all of my colleagues during this National Clean Energy Week to honestly discuss these issues in a bipartisan fashion.

SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight September as Sickle Cell Awareness Month and to call for more research on the sickle cell trait.

Today, I am introducing a resolution calling for more sickle-cell trained research and public education and awareness on the disease.

Mr. Speaker, sickle cell disease is America's most commonly inherited blood disorder and affects about 100,000 Americans. More than 3 million Americans, including 1 in 12 African Americans and 1 in 100 Latinos carry the sickle cell trait, which can lead to sickle cell disease.

For example, one is tested at birth to determine whether they have the sickle cell trait, and that is it. Later in life, there are certain tests, such as the A1C test, which some are often given to determine diabetes. Well, if you have the sickle cell trait, you could get a false positive from this test.

So it is very important that we figure out a way in terms of awareness, education, and to dedicate our resources to making sure that there are strategies to provide the information for adults so that they know that they have the sickle cell trait. Right now, millions of people have it and they don't know it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan resolution.

RECOGNIZING MARTY BRENNAMAN

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and retirement of the Cincinnati Reds legendary Hall of Fame broadcaster, Marty Brennaman.

Yesterday, Marty signed off for the last game of his famed career. He has been part of our lives and the voice of our beloved Reds for 46 years.

Marty was with us for his very first broadcast when Hank Aaron tied Babe Ruth for the most home runs hit ever.

He was with us when Pete Rose broke Ty Cobb's longstanding record for most career hits.

He was with us through three World Series titles.

Marty Brennaman is an institution in Cincinnati. He feels like family. Marty helped make both Riverfront Stadium and the Great American Ball Park feel like a second home to so many.

I know we will all miss hearing his play-by-play, his insights, and his stories.

Although I never saw Marty swing a bat, I will be glad to replay his greatest hits for the rest of my life.

I know I join Reds fans across Cincinnati and the country in a collective good-bye to one of our greatest, and this one belongs to Marty.

TREASON

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, well, I saw an extraordinary clip of President Trump at a fundraising event where he is accusing the intelligence agents who rightly reported his conduct of committing treason.

Let's see. Russia has invaded Ukraine, Ukraine is dependent upon the United States for military assistance to defend itself, Trump is withholding the aid, at the same time asking them for dirt on his political opponent.

He is jeopardizing the national security interests of the United States.

If anybody is committing treason, and I believe that is an impeachable offense, it is the President of the United States, Donald Trump.

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

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Hispanic Heritage Month and the contributions of Hispanic Americans in my congressional district in central Washington State.

Growing up in Sunnyside, Washington, I have witnessed firsthand how Hispanic Americans contribute to our communities through entrepreneurship, military service, and cultural diversity. They are our friends, our family, our neighbors, and our coworkers. They are small businessowners, doctors, police officers, and soldiers.

While we may take 1 month out of the year to recognize the historical and cultural contributions of our Hispanic American friends, we should do more to support and highlight our appreciation. That is why I am an original cosponsor of the National Museum of the American Latino Act, to finally create a Smithsonian museum to recognize and celebrate Hispanic American and Latino history in our country.

As Americans, we share a common heritage as a Nation of immigrants, and the people of central Washington cherish our diverse culture and history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month.

□ 0915

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.