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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, August 3, 2020, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 31, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DIANA DEGETTE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

We turn to You, much as the Psalmist did of old:

“Though we walk in the midst of dangers, You guard our lives when our enemies rage. You stretch out Your hand. Your right hand saves us.”

And, again: “We are surrounded by enemies, who are like lions hungry for human flesh. . . . Show Your greatness in the sky, O God, and Your glory over all of the Earth.”

And yet again: “Look! Your enemies are in an uproar, and those who hate You have raised their head. Against Your people they devise deceptive schemes, and they plot together against the people You treasure.”

We say, “In God We Trust,” and claim to be Your special blessing so

many times. Your people turn to You now, as the enemies of coronavirus and a brutal economy besiege us.

Show Your greatness, O God, and bless the Members of Congress with the wisdom and courage to address with authority these dangers.

With Your grace, give us reason to proclaim Your presence and protection in our time of need.

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

Amen.

HONORING UTAH FIREFIGHTERS’ BATTLE AGAINST KNOLLS FIRE

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

Mr. MCADAMS. Madam Speaker, Utah’s hot, dry summers bring with them risks to lives and property due to wildfires.

Our first and last line of defense against this risk is the skill, dedication, and courage of firefighters from across our State. Sometimes we may take their efforts for granted until we hear about a particular act of valor, as in Utah’s firefighters’ recent battle against the Knolls fire in Saratoga Springs.

So far this season, Utah communities have seen 650 fires, which have forced evacuations across the State. The city of Saratoga Springs and other surrounding communities faced some of the worst of it so far, with 13,000 residents forced to evacuate their homes due to the Knolls fire.

For 7 days and nights, in extreme temperatures and erratic winds, 200 firefighters worked tirelessly to protect the community and our residents. The fire consumed over 13,000 acres of land, but due to their extraordinary efforts, only one home was lost to the flames.

Wildfire season continues, but what we have shown with the Knolls fire is that local, State, and Federal resources in coordination can minimize damage and save lives.

I am grateful to the brave men and women who suit up for these dangerous

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MCADAMS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCADAMS 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

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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scenarios and never quit until the job is done.

HIGHLIGHTING OPERATION WARP SPEED

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, America is leading the way in coronavirus vaccine research.

Under the direction of President Trump, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Defense formed a historic partnership to accelerate the development of a safe coronavirus vaccine.

Around the country, Operation Warp Speed is charting a new path and breaking barriers to achieve safe and effective results for the American people.

Thanks to Americans' unparalleled ingenuity and drive, we are better positioned to develop therapeutics and a vaccine. The world is watching.

The Chinese Communist Party already has been caught attempting to steal American coronavirus vaccine research. It is key that we protect our groundbreaking research and keep our country on the road to recovery.

CALLING FOR BOLD ACTION ON STIMULUS PACKAGE

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, this week, the Senate Republicans allowed expanded Federal unemployment benefits to expire and unveiled a grossly inadequate counter to the HEROES Act titled the HEALS Act.

The HEALS Act slashes expanded Federal employment benefits by \$400 a week during a time when families need our support the most.

Even after some States have gradually reopened, the economy has not made a miraculous comeback. Millions of workers are still out of work, and too many of them do not have a job to return to.

Workers are relying on these unemployment benefits to cover basic life necessities while our economy recovers.

The HEALS Act is a moral failure. It puts corporations first instead of helping the people we were elected to serve or supporting the local governments battling this crisis.

This is not a time to play politics. We have to be bold and act with urgency.

HONORING GRADUATES OF FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the students of Georgia's First Congressional District who recently graduated.

Social distancing due to the coronavirus led to most graduations being canceled, but there have been virtual, drive-through, and in-person ceremonies throughout the summer. I am especially thankful for the hard-working school administrators and teachers across the First District who have made sure students receive the recognition they so richly deserve.

For example, Effingham County's school administrators went above and beyond in their efforts. They allowed for 380 high school seniors at Effingham County High School and 360 at South Effingham County High School to participate in a drive-through graduation that gave seniors the opportunity to drive through the campus and jump out of their cars, to have their photos taken, and receive their diplomas.

Although students across the country have had to endure the many challenges which have come with this national pandemic and have been held back from high school and college traditions like graduation ceremonies, their resilience and perseverance will promise them success and a bright future.

CELEBRATING LIBERIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Liberian community and to bring attention to an issue that Liberian refugees are experiencing in my district and across the country.

In December 2019, as part of the NDAA, we passed the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act, which would provide a pathway to citizenship to 10,000 Liberians who have resided in this country legally for years, with a 1-year window to accomplish this.

However, between administrative delays in publishing the rules to obtain this relief, and pandemic closures, 8 months have passed without a single application being processed.

The House Judiciary Committee held a hearing with USCIS this week to find out why, and we did not receive answers. We are a nation of immigrants, immigrants who enrich our communities and represent exactly what makes our country great.

I am proud to represent one of the largest Liberian-American communities in our country and just this weekend was honored to celebrate Liberian Independence Day with them.

HONORING VICTIMS OF DAYTON, OHIO, MASS SHOOTING

(Mr. TURNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, last year, on August 4, 2019, around 1 a.m., a gunman opened fire on a crowded street in the Oregon district in Dayton, Ohio.

The police officers at the scene ran toward the danger. Within a mere 32 seconds, because of the courageous acts of the police officers, the shooter was dead. Hundreds of lives were saved.

A year later, our community is still reeling from this senseless act of evil. Even with the police's quick action, nine lives were lost:

Lois Oglesby
Megan Betts
Saeed Saleh
Derrick Fudge
Nicholas Cumer
Thomas McNichols
Beatrice Warren-Curtis
Monica Brickhouse
Logan Turner

My community remains thankful for the quick action of the Dayton police officers.

THANKING ZVERSE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, during these uncertain times, it is inspiring to see our communities come together to help one another.

I am thankful to ZVerse in Columbia for their efforts to help our citizens to be safe and healthy. ZVerse is currently using their advanced technology to meet the urgent needs to shield healthcare heroes fighting the Wuhan virus.

Through this effort, ZVerse can produce 1 million engineered ZShields per week. I am grateful for the success of founder and CEO John Carrington, with President David Craig; board members Hugh Evans, Wei-Chun Tai, and Scot Wingo; and adviser Tom Kurke in fighting against this devastating disease.

I look forward to thanking ZVerse during the annual bus tour of the Second District. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the important work and citizens I represent.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Herman Cain from Atlanta.

IN THE MATTER OF REPRESENTATIVE DAVID SCHWEIKERT OF ARIZONA

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Ethics, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 1074) in the matter of Representative DAVID SCHWEIKERT, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows: