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No. 194

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOMEZ).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 16, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIMMY GOMEZ 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 and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. As the Members of the people's House regather after our quadrennial elections, may Your spirit of peace descend upon them. As the 116th Congress moves toward a close, may all here attend to the business at hand, providing what is needed for the benefit of our Nation.

May all Members, regardless of the outcome of the election, trust that their future service, be it in the House or not, will be imbued with Your grace. May they be confident that Americans of good will are grateful for their service in the past and wish them well into the future.

Throughout our Nation the coronavirus continues to spread dangerously. Continue to bless those who attend to those who are suffering and their families. We thank You for the advances that are taking place in developing effective vaccines to address the plague.

Bless us all this day and all days to come. And may all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

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 gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. LEE of California 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 12, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 12, 2020, at 10:22 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8247.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8276.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 12, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 12, 2020, at 4:46 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1773.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8472.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF ASSISTANT, THE HONORABLE NANCY PELOSI, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Elizabeth Beltran, Staff Assistant, the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 13, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Elizabeth Beltran, have been served with subpoenas for testimony issued by the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida.

□ 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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After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoenas is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

ELIZABETH BELTRAN,
Staff Assistant.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SERGEANT AT ARMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 13, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 1(b)(2) of House Resolution 965, following consultation with the Office of Attending Physician, I write to provide you further notification that the public health emergency due to the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 remains in effect.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. IRVING,
Sergeant at Arms.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's further extension, pursuant to section 1(b)(2) of House Resolution 965, effective November 17, 2020, of the "covered period" designated on May 20, 2020.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING PRESIDENT JERRY RAWLINGS OF GHANA

(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 in sympathy with the people of Ghana at the passing of former President Jerry Rawlings. I offer my sincerest condolences and prayers to his family, friends, and loved ones.

Personally, I have known President Rawlings and his beautiful family since around 1994. I most recently visited President Rawlings and his family last year when Speaker PELOSI and Chairwoman BASS led a Congressional delegation to Ghana commemorating 400 years since the brutal institution of slavery began in America. It was such a wonderful meeting and visit. He reaffirmed his commitment to strengthen the ties between Ghanaians, the country of Ghana, African Americans, and the United States.

President Rawlings' leadership contributed to steady development, a tran-

sition to democracy and peaceful transfer of power.

Today, Ghana is one of the strongest democracies in Africa, a strong partner of the United States, and a respected actor on the world's stage.

My deepest sympathy and love goes out to Mrs. Rawlings, the entire Rawlings family, to the citizens of Ghana, and the entire continent of my motherland of Africa. We stand in solidarity as the people of Ghana continue building a stronger and more inclusive and prosperous country. May President Rawlings' soul rest in peace.

THE PROMISE OF AMERICAN INNOVATION

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to showcase the promise of American innovation. Just this morning, Moderna announced that its COVID-19 vaccine is nearly 95 percent effective. Last week, Pfizer reported that its coronavirus vaccine is more than 90 percent effective.

Today, less than a year after the coronavirus reached our shores, this is an incredible achievement. It is a testament to the excellence of American scientists and researchers.

Thanks to these heroes and to the historic private-public partnership spurred by Operation Warp Speed, our Nation is positioned to distribute a safe and effective vaccine more efficiently than any other country in the world.

Now more than ever, as cases of COVID-19 rise across our Nation, we must stand firm against this invisible enemy. And thanks to American innovation, there is hope on the horizon.

HONORING SCIENTISTS AND RESEARCHERS

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the frontline heroes, especially our healthcare workers who are working tirelessly under unbearable stresses to save lives.

I thank the researchers and scientists who are developing COVID vaccines. But I also want to plead with my fellow citizens to act responsibly to protect each other in this battle against a deadly virus.

Today, Moderna announced remarkable results for a second vaccine on the heels of Pfizer's recent announcement.

There is light at the end of the tunnel, but the tunnel is long, and the road back is still many months away. We can't afford to let our guard down or millions of Americans will get sick and thousands, tens of thousands of our fellow citizens, our neighbors, and our family members will needlessly die.

As I speak, America's hospitals, especially in rural and underserved commu-

nities, are at capacity. They are airlifting patients to bigger cities. We have reports of growing shortfalls of medical supplies and staff. Our frontline healthcare workers desperately need our help.

As we enter the holiday season, I am begging Americans to stay vigilant. Wear a mask, watch your distance, and wash your hands. If you must gather, do so outside, even though it is cold. I know that you want to see your families. I want to see mine. I know that the sacrifice will not be easy, but I also know that there is pain.

We can do this. We can beat back this virus, but only if we do it together. If we don't people will die, and God forbid you or your loved one is the last to die before a vaccine.

DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE REPUBLICAN WOMEN

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the mainstream media will never acknowledge that 2020 is the year of the Republican women.

They wrote us off on countless occasions, and yet, we proved them wrong time and time again.

Across the country, the American people made their voices heard in voting booths, and they chose numerous Republican women candidates to be their voice in Washington.

To conservative women who aspire for public office, people will work to discredit you, they will claim your priorities are misplaced, and they will do everything they can to undermine your hard work.

But what they won't acknowledge is that you represent the best of the values of the American people. That is what truly matters.

COMMEMORATING THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

(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 as co-chair of the bipartisan German-American Caucus to commemorate the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Last week, November 9, marked 31 years since the Iron Curtain fell and the Cold War began to crumble.

For nearly three decades, the Berlin Wall stood as a growing reminder of the evils of communism and the ongoing threat of the Cold War.

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan famously shouted, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall." Two years later, the wall finally came down. East and West Berliners celebrated together at Brandenburg Gate.

The following year, on October 3, 1990, East and West Germany reunited as one.