

and to celebrate the children and families brought together through the adoption process.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the numerous organizations and individuals throughout the First Congressional District that offer vital assistance to the children in the foster care system. Their efforts to help adopted children and provide resources for young adults aging out of the system go a long way in ensuring the safety and well-being of this vulnerable population. Their tireless efforts and compassion for others form the backbone of our child welfare system.

I am honored to join with my colleagues in celebration of National Adoption Month and to thank all the generous organizations and individuals in the First Congressional District of Kentucky for their dedication to such a noble cause.

#### RECOGNIZING TODD COUNTY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, as the Congressman for Kentucky's First Congressional District, I am proud to represent 35 counties and numerous communities with their own unique identities.

A very special county and city in my district are celebrating their 200th anniversary this year. Todd County is a county I represent on the Kentucky-Tennessee State line that is full of small towns and rich traditions.

Todd County, along with the city of Elkton, have been a special part of western Kentucky for two centuries now.

Whether you reside in Elkton, Guthrie, or Trenton, you call home a beautiful county full of wonderful people. With a strong farming heritage, agriculture continues to play a significant role in the local economy.

2020 is not the ideal year to celebrate the two-century milestone, but while this year has brought significant change to our society, one thing has not changed: Todd County, Elkton, and other rural communities will continue to provide a strong voice for small-town values in our Nation.

I am proud to represent the good people of Todd County and Elkton in Congress, and I look forward to seeing even more prosperous years to come.

#### END PROXY VOTING

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, under Speaker PELOSI's leadership, this body has experienced a series of new lows.

One of these failures in leadership was encouraging the abdication of our duty as lawmakers amid a national crisis. The majority party upended centuries of precedent by allowing proxy voting, and now has another terrible idea: vote by text.

As many essential American workers have continued working every day, this approach mistakenly signals that Congress is above the American people.

The coronavirus is a serious crisis and one that requires Congress to show up in person to address our Nation's challenges. I am proud to have shown

up here at the Capitol alongside my Republican colleagues throughout 2020 to cast votes.

Members of this body should not be able to shield themselves from scrutiny by voting on issues without being fully present.

As we close out the year and move into 2021, it is imperative that all Americans get the full representation they deserve in Congress, with their elected officials showing up for work.

#### HOLD HEARINGS ON ELECTION INTEGRITY

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, today, JIM JORDAN, the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, and myself are sending a letter to Chairman NADLER and Chairwoman MALONEY, the chairs of our respective committees, requesting a hearing on the election process, the integrity of the election process.

Just last night, we got a report that over 2,000 ballots had just been found in Georgia. Ironically, despite the fact that all these absentee ballots have been breaking overwhelmingly for the Democrats and for Joe Biden in the Presidential race, this particular batch of ballots broke 800 votes in favor of Donald Trump.

Now, I have been hesitant to criticize the election process without facts. We have facts here.

It is a fact that there has been a history of problems with Dominion and different election software programs that have been used in several of the States that are in question in this Presidential election.

We have had all of these hearings in the Judiciary Committee and all of these hearings in the Oversight and Reform Committee on Russia collusion that never proved anything, but we have a Presidential election that every American is watching. Why can't we have hearings on that?

Mr. Speaker, we are here for the next 2 weeks. I strongly encourage the Judiciary and Oversight and Reform Committees to hold a hearing on our election integrity.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 29 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CORREA) at noon.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving and gracious Lord of mercy, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

In this single week after a long campaign season and before breaking once again for Thanksgiving, bless the Members of the people's House with focus and purpose on the issues facing them.

We ask Your blessing as well on those newly elected who will be joining this assembly for the 117th Congress. May their transition into office be smooth and marked by the civility of democratic change of government, which is the rightful pride of the United States of America.

Lord, our Nation continues to be besieged by the plague of the coronavirus. Send Your spirit of peace, that our people might be brought together to address the dangers of this disease as we approach seasons of family and community celebration. Bless as well those who continue to labor to bring health and relief to those who are ill.

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 gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### CALLING FOR COVID-19 AID

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, Michigan, like many States, continues to see a skyrocketing number of COVID-19 cases. In my own family, we have cases, serious cases, of this terrible virus.

This pandemic is far, far from over. It is actually getting worse, and Congress has to do its job.

Families, seniors, small businesses, they need our support right now. I have heard from thousands of constituents who are still struggling to pay their bills, to put food on the table, to pay rent, and to protect themselves.

This Congress needs to pass emergency relief now. It has been 6 months

since the House passed a COVID relief bill, a bill that would put money in the pockets of workers, up to \$6,000 per household; it would extend unemployment benefits for those people who have lost their jobs as a result of this pandemic; and it would support small businesses, importantly, those small businesses that are just on the brink of failure, to ensure that relief gets to those underserved communities and especially to some of our nonprofits.

Sadly, the COVID bill sits on MITCH MCCONNELL's desk, gathering dust.

This is a pandemic. It is a health crisis. It is an economic crisis. We need to come together, put politics aside, negotiate with one another, come to a compromise, and help the American people.

#### RECOGNIZING VETERANS DAY

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

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this past Wednesday, we recognized Veterans Day.

It is most appropriate that we set aside a day each year to thank the brave men and women in our Armed Forces who have selflessly sacrificed so much for our great Nation.

For more than two centuries, Americans have fought under the American flag for the principles of freedom, justice, and equality under the law.

Our Americans stand tall and are respected worldwide for their dedication to country and the sacrifices that they have made for our freedom. Many have gone to hell and back to preserve the natural rights outlined in the Constitution, specifically freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and the right to bear arms.

In eastern North Carolina, I am honored to represent 95,000 veterans, the third most of any congressional district in the United States.

Despite the partisanship oftentimes seen in this body, it is critical, like was done on this House floor last night, that we show broad, bipartisan support for our American veterans.

Their defense of our Nation has not been just for Democrat, not just for Republican or independent. It has been for all Americans.

So, again, we say thank you for your service, and God bless you all.

#### CREDITING OPERATION WARP SPEED

(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. Mr. Speaker, with America under attack by the Wuhan virus, President Donald Trump announced Operation Warp Speed, led by Vice President MIKE PENCE.

Operation Warp Speed is America's commonsense path toward a historic

effort to safely bring the virus testing, treatments, and vaccines to the American people in record time.

Extraordinary scientists, doctors, and manufacturers from around the Nation are working tirelessly through Operation Warp Speed to develop safe and effective vaccines. A safe, effective vaccine is the key to restoring our normal way of life and restoring jobs.

Just this week, Moderna announced vaccine success and, thanks to President Trump, vaccine production is underway.

This is great news for our families and for the restoration of jobs, and I am grateful that we are closer than ever to defeating the pandemic.

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

#### REMEMBERING HUGH PENDLETON NUNNALLY, JR.

(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 in remembrance of Hugh Pendleton Nunnally, Jr., who was a pillar in the Golden Isles community.

Hugh was born and raised in Atlanta and graduated from Georgia Tech with a degree in agriculture. After graduating, he was fortunate enough to be mentored by Malon Courts of the Courts & Company and became a broker within 2 years.

In 1955, he was drafted into the Army and finished his service in 1957 as a sergeant.

Following Hugh's time in the Army, he became a founding partner in the brokerage firm Budd & Company and then a founding partner of Presidential Financial Company.

After the death of his precious wife, Miriam, he was devoted to many philanthropic efforts, including the Southeast Georgia Health System, the Nunnally House, the College of Coastal Georgia, the Humane Society of South Coastal Georgia, and the Hospice of the Golden Isles.

Hugh will always be remembered for his endearing smile, compassion, and selflessness.

My thoughts and prayers are with all who knew and loved him during this most difficult time.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### NIMHD RESEARCH ENDOWMENT REVITALIZATION ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 4499) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4499

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2020".

#### SEC. 2. RESEARCH ENDOWMENTS AT BOTH CURRENT AND FORMER CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.

Paragraph (1) of section 464z-3(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285t(h)) is amended to read as follows:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Institute may carry out a program to facilitate minority health disparities research and other health disparities research by providing for research endowments—

"(A) at current or former centers of excellence under section 736; and

"(B) at current or former centers of excellence under section 464z-4."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4499.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 4499, the NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2020.

This bill authorizes the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, or NIMHD, to facilitate research on minority health disparities through research endowments at current or former Centers of Excellence.

The NIMHD Research Endowment Program was established by the Minority Health and Disparities Research and Education Act of 2000. By supporting the endowments of certain academic institutions, the program promotes minority health and health disparities research capacity, increases the diversity of the scientific workforce, and enhances the recruitment and retention of underrepresented individuals in science.

Congress expanded the eligibility of the program to include institutions of higher education with an active NIMHD Center of Excellence, and this expansion inadvertently resulted in