

process. I hope my colleagues will come to the same conclusion and decide to stand by the people of Iowa's Second Congressional District and seat Congresswoman-elect Mariannette Miller-Meeks on January 3.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESSMAN CLAY

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I didn't congratulate you on leaving this great institution and making this institution a much better place for you serving with all of us.

I have enjoyed our time together, flying back and forth from our districts, and I have enjoyed the friendship that you and I have been able to have over the last 8 years that we have served together.

Mr. Speaker, you have done a great job representing the district in Missouri right across the river from mine, and our partnership is one that is bound not just in politics and not just in legislating, but in friendship. I am going to miss being here with you.

This institution will be a better place, again, because of your service. We will all be at a loss without being able to go to you and ask you for your expertise, your guidance, and just having some fun.

I am going miss you, my friend, but our institution's loss is your personal time and your family's gain, and I look forward to working with you in whatever the next endeavor is on your horizon. May God continue to bless you.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESSMAN PHIL ROE

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your friendship and your kindness to the 435th most powerful person in Congress—that would be me. I really do, brother, and I am going to miss you.

Mr. Speaker, after six terms representing Tennessee's First Congressional District, Dr. PHIL ROE is retiring at the end of this year. Dr. ROE has focused his career in the House of Representatives on fighting for our Nation's veterans and using his medical background to tackle those tough healthcare issues.

As a matter of fact, during one of the State of the Union addresses, someone dropped in the back. I turned back to Congressman ROE and I said, "Somebody has dropped," and before I could get "dropped" out of my mouth, he was already out of the row providing medical care to him.

When I arrived in Washington almost 2 years ago, Dr. ROE was the first person to reach out and offer advice about serving in this Chamber. He was a mentor throughout my first term, and we bonded over our faith by attending weekly prayer breakfasts together. His mentorship has quickly turned into a friendship over the last 2 years—and he

is an excellent guitar player, Mr. Speaker.

As a legislator, Dr. ROE has always looked out for America's brave servicemen and -women. He served as chairman and lead Republican on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, helping pass bipartisan bills to improve healthcare benefits for our brave veterans. Armed servicemembers deserve the very best for their sacrifices, and Dr. ROE was always in their corner.

Congress will be different next year without Dr. ROE, and I will miss working with him on the issues most important to east Tennesseans.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. ROE on a strong career in Congress, and I wish him the very best in retirement.

CONGRATULATING COACH GARY RANKIN

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach Gary Rankin and the Alcoa High School football team on their sixth consecutive State championship title.

On Saturday, December 4, at the Tennessee Blue Cross Bowl, Alcoa defeated Milan High in an impressive 35-0 shut-out. This win marks the Tornadoes' 19th State championship and Coach Rankin's 16th overall, both of which are high school football records in Tennessee. It is certainly a proud day to represent this team in the Halls of Congress.

Amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, schools and their sports teams had to adjust and readjust. Coach Rankin and his players were faced with a season like none other, but they put in the hours, they persevered, and they came out on top. This championship is a remarkable achievement that I am sure this group of players will remember for the rest of their lives.

I know I speak for many in east Tennessee when I say: Congratulations, and go Tornadoes.

RECOGNIZING BISHOP RICHARD STIKA

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bishop Richard Stika of the Knoxville Diocese. This week, Bishop Stika is celebrating his 35th year as an ordained priest of the Catholic Church, a remarkable career milestone.

Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Bishop Stika received a Catholic education from elementary school through college. He capped off his theological education by earning a master of divinity from Kenrick Seminary.

Bishop Stika was ordained a priest on December 14, 1985, and for nearly 24 years he served in several different parishes in the St. Louis area. One of his greatest achievements during this time was coordinating the visit of Pope John Paul II to St. Louis in 1999, Mr. Speaker.

On March 19, 2009, he became bishop of the Knoxville Diocese, and Bishop Stika has been making strong spiritual connections with east Tennesseans ever since. At 11 years in the Knoxville Diocese, Bishop Stika is the longest serving bishop in our diocese.

Bishop Stika and I share many values, including a strong belief in pro-

tecting the lives of the unborn. Bishop Stika has made a positive impact on many east Tennesseans throughout his tenure, and, Mr. Speaker, I am confident he will continue to be a leader in our community.

CELEBRATING A.G. HEINS COMPANY

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, the American entrepreneurial spirit is the bedrock of our Nation's economy, creating good-paying jobs, solving everyday problems, and providing the goods and services we rely on. I rise today to celebrate the A.G. Heins Company, which rode the entrepreneurial spirit from humble beginnings to 100 years of success in our community.

Currently in its fourth generation of family ownership, the A.G. Heins Company has long provided building materials to the east Tennessee region. The company provides necessary resources to complete projects of all sizes, from individual household repairs, to construction at the University of Tennessee.

Staying in business for 100 years is no easy accomplishment, and the A.G. Heins Company persevered through many challenging economic times, such as the Great Depression and the Second World War. The company's history is a reminder that small businesses can grow and innovate even in the face of adversity, Mr. Speaker.

I extend my congratulations to the Heins family as they celebrate their 100th year in business this month, and I wish them many more years of success.

CONCERNS WITH A NEW TREND

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

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express concern with a trend that could harm our financial system, crush jobs, and have lasting negative impacts on American competitiveness and economic exceptionalism.

Many on the other side of the aisle are calling for financial regulators to inject climate risk scenarios into bank supervision, and a new administration will likely prioritize weaponizing financial regulation to achieve unrelated climate goals.

Radical climate activists are incapable of passing the Green New Deal through Congress because most Americans understand it will destroy jobs, increase energy costs, and destabilize our economy at a time of immense fragility and volatility, so they will undoubtedly turn to financial regulation and supervision as a backdoor to implement their climate agenda.

Earlier this year, a group of Democrat Senators put these ideas to paper in a partisan report, calling on all Federal financial regulators to infuse ill-defined climate scenarios into their supervision of banks and to discourage financial firms from lending to industries that "amplify climate risk," such as coal or oil and natural gas. Lost on

these Senators is the impact that this would have on American jobs and cost of living amid a pandemic or the fact that financial supervision should rely on risk-based metrics rather than pie-in-the-sky sustainability goals.

This week, the Federal Reserve announced that it joined the Network for Greening the Financial System, a consortium of central banks intent on weaving climate risk into bank supervision. To those of us closely tracking this issue, the decision by the Fed raises many red flags.

I take no issue with the Fed participating in multilateral deliberative bodies. My concern comes from some of the ideas being discussed by other members of the NGFS and whether the Fed plans to import them.

The NGFS has made a series of recommendations that are particularly troubling. First, it suggests supervisors elevate their regulated entities based on sustainability metrics in their portfolios. Unfortunately, there is no clear definition of what “sustainability” means, but you can bet that the climate activists will push it all the way to the brink.

We do not need European regulators to tell our banks how sustainable their portfolios should be. Portfolio strength should be measured objectively, based on credit risk, not on poorly defined sustainability goals.

Second, the NGFS urges regulators to integrate climate risks into financial stability monitoring. Unfortunately, climate stress scenarios are plagued with methodological challenges. Material impacts from changing weather patterns occur over the course of decades; whereas, current stress tests look at a period of nine quarters. It would be difficult for a bank to accurately forecast stresses over that length of time, and regulators can't account for a bank's dynamic operational and risk management practices over that period.

Further, there is a lack of historical data on the relationship between changing weather patterns and financial stress, and the available data may have gaps or a disqualifying level of subjectivity.

□ 1330

Last week, I led a group of 47 House Republicans in a letter to Federal Reserve Chairman Powell and Vice Chair Quarles requesting that they proceed cautiously in their deliberations on whether to incorporate climate change scenarios into financial stress tests. The letter highlights many of the methodological challenges I just raised and encourages them to consider the negative impact this would have on U.S. industry and American jobs.

As we mentioned in our letter, it is important that the Fed commit to not accepting any international climate standards that are not appropriately tailored to the U.S. financial system or that would adversely impact U.S. competitiveness. We expect U.S. regulators

to make similar commitments when adopting other international standards, such as the Basel Accords and insurance standards from the International Association of Insurance Supervisors. This should be no different.

Mr. Speaker, this effort to pressure financial regulators to inject climate scenarios into bank stress tests is not about predicting financial stress. It is about causing financial stress, causing financial stress for an entire segment of the U.S. economy: the energy sector.

Far from promoting financial stability, this dangerous movement, right at a time of a global pandemic, to politicize access to capital would undermine economic stability by denying American families and businesses access to affordable and reliable energy.

Mr. Speaker, I call on the Federal Reserve to keep this in mind, to keep in mind the millions of jobs that are on the line, as Congress exercises oversight over the Federal Reserve's mandate to maximize employment.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. CASTOR of Florida) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

We thank You for the hard work and dedication of those among this assembly working directly toward the imminent completion of a long-elusive economic relief bill. Bless them with the strength and patience needed to bring this work to completion.

As the coronavirus continues to infect ever-increasing numbers of our citizens, and so many families lose loved ones, give comfort to Your people. Help us all to be mindful of those in need of encouragement and support through such difficult times.

Bless as well those who rush now to provide the vaccines for our healthcare workers and elders. We thank You for their excellent example of service to others.

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 New York (Mr. ROSE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ROSE of New York 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.

REMEMBERING DR. AHMAD JABER

(Mr. ROSE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Dr. Ahmad Jaber, who passed away last week after a lifetime spent building New York's thriving Muslim-American community.

Dr. Jaber was a towering figure who rose from humble origins. He was a proud Palestinian who won prestigious scholarships to study medicine in Iraq, Jordan, and later to do his residency in this great country.

As a young doctor, Dr. Jaber had done and seen more than most people do in a lifetime, but he did not stop there. He built his medical practice in Sunset Park into a thriving business, personally delivering more than 5,000 babies.

He attended to his community's spiritual needs, and he was a fixture at his mosque, providing financial support as well as translating sermons or offering medical assistance. Dr. Jaber helped found numerous organizations throughout his life, which now carry on his legacy of strengthening the Muslim-American community in New York and around the country.

We need more people like Dr. Jaber in this country, people who leave their mark on society through humble and dedicated work on behalf of their community.

We are forever grateful to have benefited from Dr. Jaber's presence, and he will be so deeply missed. Allah yerhamo.

MOURNING KEN HATTRUP

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

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing of a longtime friend and community leader, Ken Hattrup of Sherman County, and The Dalles, Oregon.