

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. LAHOOD 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.

WELCOMING RABBI SETH FRISCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to welcome Rabbi Seth Frisch, who delivered today's opening prayer to the people's House.

Since his ordination in 1986, at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in New York, Rabbi Frisch has been a source of comfort and counsel to Jews around the world. In his current posting as rabbi and teacher of the New Shul of Philadelphia, Rabbi Frisch helps serve as a guide for those who want to learn more about what it means to be Jewish in a safe and supporting setting.

In a way, today's opening prayer was a homecoming for Rabbi Frisch, who previously served as a legislative assistant to the chairman of the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

I pray that we will all heed his words today, that out of many, we are one Nation. Let us strive to put our divisions behind us and realize our dream of a country indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Gun Violence Survivors Week, a time when we

remember the tragic and life-altering impact of the gun violence epidemic that continues to affect thousands of families across the country.

Every year, 36,000 Americans are killed by gun violence and 100,000 Americans are injured. In my city alone, an average of 765 people die of gun violence every year.

Too many families have been touched by this violence. Too many young people go to school afraid. Too many Americans live in fear.

Last night, the President's State of the Union only mentioned firearms once. And instead of presenting a plan, it defended the NRA.

We owe it to every survivor and to everyone who has been touched by gun violence to do more than hold a moment of science or post a hashtag on Twitter. We owe the American people real action.

PUNXSUTAWNEY PHIL

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank one of the most productive, job-producing constituents in my district, Punxsutawney Phil.

Over the weekend, Punxsutawney Phil delivered us some good news: He predicted an early spring for the second year in a row.

But that is not the only good news. Groundhog Day draws tens of thousands of tourists to Jefferson County each year, which boosts revenue at local restaurants, hotels, and other small businesses.

Last week, activists claimed that Punxsutawney Phil should be replaced by an animatronic groundhog powered by artificial intelligence.

Well, I believe in creating jobs, not eliminating them. And Punxsutawney Phil is no exception. I will always stand up for the hardworking men, women, and rodents in the 15th District of Pennsylvania.

In all seriousness, Groundhog Day brings together people of all different backgrounds, and this fun family celebration reminds us of the importance of tradition. It is not only an economic stimulus in the district, but it is also a great source of pride.

GUN VIOLENCE IS AN EPIDEMIC

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, today, I rise because there is an epidemic in our country. One hundred Americans die every day from gun violence. We are 25 times more likely to die from guns than people who live in comparable nations.

Gun violence is personal to me. When I was a young boy, my sister took her

life with my father's revolver. In 2014, my community was devastated by the Isla Vista shooting that killed six people and left 14 injured.

I rise because there are commonsense solutions to curb this violent trend. One of those is my bipartisan Extreme Risk Protection Order Act of 2019, which will help ensure people who have demonstrated that they are at risk of hurting themselves or others temporarily don't have access to guns. The bill passed out of the committee. I now ask the House to bring this legislation to the floor.

The House has already sent two bipartisan background check bills to the Senate; yet, Senate Majority Leader McConnell has not acted. There is no excuse.

I will continue to rise until we end this epidemic.

HIGHLIGHTING IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING THE SECOND AMENDMENT

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

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the importance of protecting the Second Amendment to the Constitution.

In my district, Commissioners in Davidson, Davie, Iredell, and Rowan Counties in North Carolina recently passed resolutions that simply affirm the Second Amendment rights of their residents and declare that these counties will never participate in the infringement of those rights through unconstitutional gun control.

Anti-gun politicians in neighboring Virginia and other States are trying to undermine and overturn the Second Amendment. That is why these measures in my State are both necessary and timely.

I commend these counties, and I remain fully committed to defending the rights of responsible, law-abiding gun owners.

Madam Speaker, it is a people problem, not a device problem.

GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK

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

Mr. MORELLE. Madam Speaker, it pains me to stand before you today and recognize Gun Violence Survivors Week. As a Nation, we grieve for all the lives lost senselessly and all those who must live in the wake of these acts of horror.

This week alone, we have seen another school devastated by gun violence, another community uncertain how to move forward.

Our country is faced with a growing epidemic, and it is our responsibility as lawmakers to take action to protect our communities.

That is why I am proud to have joined Senator ELIZABETH WARREN, Congressman HANK JOHNSON, and a group of colleagues to introduce the Gun Violence Prevention and Community Safety Act.

This bold reform includes my bill to strengthen gun shop regulations and prevent the theft of legal firearms. Over 30 percent of guns used in a crime are identified as stolen, and every one we keep out of the hands of the wrong people is a step closer to a safer reality for our Nation. The time to act is now.

SUPPORTING MAGNET SCHOOLS

(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, I am grateful to be recognized by the Magnet Schools of America as a Champion of Magnet School Excellence and to be a steadfast supporter of magnet schools. I appreciate that President Donald Trump's praising of magnet schools was included last night in the State of the Union.

Last week, I had the opportunity to visit Dutch Fork Elementary School Academy of Environmental Sciences, a magnet school in Irmo, South Carolina. Dutch Fork is one of many amazing examples of how magnet schools are important for academic excellence. I had the opportunity to meet with students and teachers and talk with them about their unique educational experiences.

I was thankful to talk with Katrina Goggins, the Director of Communications for District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties, Principal Julius Scott, Assistant Principal Brandon Gantt, School District Five Magnet Director Sara Wheeler, and Shirley Cope.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism with the courageous leadership of President Donald Trump.

HONORING THE UNBREAKABLE BOND OF MARK AND DAVID CARLES

(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 honor of Mark and David Carles, two brothers with an unbreakable bond.

Ever since they were kids growing up on Staten Island, Mark and his older brother, David, have been absolutely inseparable. When Mark was diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer in October of 2018, David postponed his baseball career to take care of his brother.

While Mark was using a breathing tube and unable to speak, the brothers communicated using sign language. After a life-threatening surgery, the first thing Mark did was sign David's name.

Mark is a talented runner who, with David's support, refused to let chemotherapy get in the way of his training, whether it was doing laps down hospital corridors or running around the dining room table.

The brothers have even encouraged their father, Sandy, to run with them as well. All three train for road races together. Mark recently finished the Staten Island Athletic Club 5K in under 24 minutes.

Mark and David, your deep commitment to one another is an inspiration to Staten Island, all of New York City, and all of America.

Mark, you are a fighter. You inspire your family, your friends, and all those who you fight for as well.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF METAMORA HIGH SCHOOL COACH PAT RYAN

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in the House to recognize and congratulate Metamora High School head football coach Pat Ryan, who has announced his retirement after 30 years at the helm of the program.

Over his 30-year tenure, Coach Ryan has led the Redbirds to seven championship games and two State titles. He retires with a record of 268–76, and a spot in the Illinois High School Football Hall of Fame.

Coach Ryan's greatness is known across central Illinois. His players love him. His students love him. Even his rivals love him, or at least love competing against him.

Not only is Coach Ryan a legend on the field, but his success off the field in modeling young men is unrivaled and unmatched. Coach Ryan coached thousands of students and left a profound impact on the lives of countless players. Many of his former players have become educators and coaches themselves and attribute their career paths to Coach Ryan's positive influence on their lives.

Congrats to Coach Ryan on his legendary career, both on and off the field. He has made our central Illinois community a better place, and he will be missed on Friday nights. I congratulate him on his Hall of Fame career.

Go Redbirds.

□ 1215

RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, I urge every one of my colleagues to use Black History Month to celebrate the contributions of people who came to this hemisphere not of their own free

will—in chains, in bondage, and then helped to make this country great.

It is important that we not only recognize them and their contributions but their example of resilience:

Philip Reid, who as an enslaved man was responsible for casting the statue which sits atop this building, and as a free man supervised the installation of the Statue of Freedom; Maggie Walker, who became the first woman to preside over a savings institution, which during the Great Depression consolidated to become the Consolidated Bank and Trust, which still exists today; Ralph Bunche, an American diplomat fundamental to the creation and adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights who later went on to be the first African American to win the Nobel Peace Prize for his negotiation efforts between Egypt and Israel; and William Leidesdorff of Saint Croix, master of shipping of vessels, rancher, gold miner, and one of the founders of San Francisco.

These Americans are quietly embedded in our Nation's history, but today, this month, we celebrate them, their work, and their dedication.

RECOGNIZING EINAR MAISCH

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Einar Maisch for his 34 years of service to the Placer County Water Agency. Water resiliency and infrastructure are pressing needs in northern California, and Einar has devoted his career to solving these critical issues.

As general manager, he worked to make PCWA the local leader in water rights by overseeing the clear and transparent budget process, increasing customer accessibility to the agency, and expanding its regional and national influence on water issues.

Throughout his long tenure, Einar has always prioritized the needs and interests of the customers and the community. His work will leave a lasting impact on water planning, resiliency, and management in northern California for decades come, and the north State is very thankful for all Einar has done.

Madam Speaker, I thank Einar, and I wish him the best of luck in his much-deserved and probably busier retirement. May he keep his knowledge and experience available to all of us.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Gun Violence Survivors Week.

Every year, roughly 36,000 Americans are killed from gun violence. This is an