

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 52 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 (Ms. KAPTUR) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God of the universe and all who dwell therein, every nation, every tribe, every people and language stands before Your throne.

In gratitude, we stand alongside our brothers and sisters to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Month, acknowledging the first known Japanese immigrants in 1843, the Chinese laborers who sacrificed their lives and dignity to build the transcontinental railroad, the Vietnamese for whose freedom many spilled blood.

We pause to stop and consider how You have brought them and countless others, Koreans, Filipinos, Indians, and Pacific Islanders, to these shores as immigrants, refugees, or even war brides, blessing their journeys with hope for the freedom and opportunity our country's vast resources provide.

Lord, we acknowledge and honor so many who have made significant contributions to law and medicine, science and technology, arts and entertainment. How humbled we are by the wideness of Your embrace and how indebted we are to the evidence of Your hand in all of creation.

Free us, then, from our hatred or indifference toward those whom we perceive as the "other." Instead, reconcile us to Yourself and to our compatriots, that we may consider how, by Your divine providence and grace, O Lord, we are a richer Nation because of the blessing of our diversity.

It is in the unity of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. HORSFORD 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.

RECOGNIZING JULIANA URTUBEY

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and celebrate Ms. Juliana Urtubey, a Nevada teacher whose commitment to joyful and just education has led to her well-deserved selection as the 2021 National Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Urtubey is a first-generation immigrant and bilingual educator who works in special education at Booker Elementary in Nevada's Fourth Congressional District.

At Booker Elementary, she is known as Ms. Earth for beautifying the community with gardens and murals.

She teaches her students to take pride in themselves, their identities, and their strengths.

She is the best of Nevada, the best of our educators, and we are so proud of her.

HONORING ELY BLAISDELL

(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 honor Ely Blaisdell of South Fork, Pennsylvania. Ely has accepted a fully qualified appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in New York.

Ely is a senior at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School. He has two siblings, Eban and Margaret. He is the son of Michael and Karen Blaisdell. He is the grandson of the late Herbert and Carolyn Kessler and Eva Stahr-Kessler, all of Johnstown; and Margaret and the late Mark Blaisdell of Wilmore, Pennsylvania.

Ely is following in the footsteps of two of his uncles, Dan Kessler and Paul Kessler, who graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in 1979 and 1975, respectively.

Madam Speaker, Ely Blaisdell is a dedicated member of his community. His passion for service and his commitment to his education will serve him well as he heads to Kings Point, New York.

Good luck to him as he enters this next chapter of his life, and I thank him for his service to our country.

RECOGNIZING FALLEN SERVICEMEMBERS

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

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize our fallen servicemembers as Memorial Day approaches.

This weekend, I was proud to join in the dedication of the Fall River Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, which pays homage to the nearly 60,000 Americans who died in Vietnam. They were not always honored as they should have been by their contemporaries, but we honor them now. Liberty, justice, and democracy are ultimately protected by those who are willing to lay down their lives to defend these values.

This coming Memorial Day, let us enjoy time with our friends and families, a more acute joy than ever, after this past year. But let us also center ourselves on the true meaning of the day and reflect on the sacrifice and valor of those no longer with us.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE ATTACK ON SANTA FE HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the victims of the heinous attack on Santa Fe High School on this day back in 2018.

Three years ago, Santa Fe, Texas, a salt-of-the-earth town in my district, was confronted with an incomprehensible evil. Instead of revisiting those horrendous acts of violence, today I rise to honor the lives that were tragically cut short:

15-year-old Aaron Kyle McLeod;
15-year-old Angelique Ramirez;
14-year-old Kimberly Vaughan;
63-year-old Cynthia Tisdale;
17-year-old Sabika Sheikh;
17-year-old Jared Black;
16-year-old Shana Fisher;
64-year-old Glenda Ann Perkins;
15-year-old Christian Riley Garcia;
and

17-year-old Christopher Stone, who was adventurous, understanding, and easy to talk to.

Both Christopher and Christian have received medals of honor for the deed they did.

Madam Speaker, it was a solemn day.

CONGRATULATING ABBY CROW

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a young woman from my district for her appointment to fill an important seat in the State of Iowa.

On April 16, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds appointed Abby Crow, a native of

Tiffin, Iowa, and a sophomore human physiology major at the University of Iowa, to fill the student seat on the State Board of Regents.

The Board of Regents, which governs five public educational institutions across Iowa, first established a student regent position in 1973 to give students a say in decisionmaking. Since then, five University of Iowa students have served in this position.

On April 28, Abby was unanimously confirmed to serve on the board, six years since the last Hawkeye student filled the seat.

The student regent seat is incredibly important, and I have tremendous faith that Abby will be an excellent representative for the university and for her fellow students.

CONDEMNING THE ACTS OF TERROR AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL

(Mrs. MILLER of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, our Nation must be united in our condemnation of the acts of terror and stand in support of the State of Israel, our ally and strategic partner, the beacon of light in the Middle East.

Hamas is a terrorist organization with the sole purpose of destroying Israel. Since last Monday, more than 3,000 rockets have been fired from Gaza into Israel.

One of my daughter's close friends attended school in Israel. She has been awakened to rockets being fired over her head, and she has spent days on high alert, ready to run for shelter at any given moment.

No country would tolerate thousands of rocket attacks against major cities and population centers. Israel has the obligation and duty to defend its citizens against the violent attacks from Hamas.

Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East. President Trump was the President of peace. His agenda was right, and the United States should stand strong as a friend to Israel.

My family and I will continue to pray for the peace and safety of the people of Israel as they combat terrorism.

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, May 18, 2021.

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 mes-

sage from the Secretary of the Senate on May 18, 2021, at 9:50 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 941.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

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.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2021

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1157) to provide for certain authorities of the Department of State, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1157

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Department of State Authorization Act of 2021”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.
Sec. 3. Determination of budgetary effects.

TITLE I—ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sec. 1001. Diplomatic Programs.
Sec. 1002. Sense of Congress on importance of Department of State's work.
Sec. 1003. Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.
Sec. 1004. Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs.
Sec. 1005. Bureau of Consular Affairs; Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration.
Sec. 1006. Office of International Disability Rights.
Sec. 1007. Anti-piracy information sharing.
Sec. 1008. Importance of foreign affairs training to national security.
Sec. 1009. Classification and assignment of Foreign Service officers.
Sec. 1010. Energy diplomacy and security within the Department of State.
Sec. 1011. National Museum of American Diplomacy.
Sec. 1012. Extension of period for reimbursement of fishermen for costs incurred from the illegal seizure and detention of U.S.-flag fishing vessels by foreign governments.
Sec. 1013. Art in embassies.
Sec. 1014. Amendment or repeal of reporting requirements.
Sec. 1015. Reporting on implementation of GAO recommendations.
Sec. 1016. Office of Global Criminal Justice.

TITLE II—EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION

Sec. 1201. Embassy security, construction, and maintenance.

Sec. 1202. Standard design in capital construction.
Sec. 1203. Capital construction transparency.
Sec. 1204. Contractor performance information.
Sec. 1205. Growth projections for new embassies and consulates.
Sec. 1206. Long-range planning process.
Sec. 1207. Value engineering and risk assessment.
Sec. 1208. Business volume.
Sec. 1209. Embassy security requests and deficiencies.
Sec. 1210. Overseas security briefings.
Sec. 1211. Contracting methods in capital construction.
Sec. 1212. Competition in embassy construction.
Sec. 1213. Statement of policy.
Sec. 1214. Definitions.

TITLE III—PERSONNEL ISSUES

Sec. 1301. Defense Base Act insurance waivers.
Sec. 1302. Study on Foreign Service allowances.
Sec. 1303. Science and technology fellowships.
Sec. 1304. Travel for separated families.
Sec. 1305. Home leave travel for separated families.
Sec. 1306. Sense of Congress regarding certain fellowship programs.
Sec. 1307. Technical correction.
Sec. 1308. Foreign Service awards.
Sec. 1309. Workforce actions.
Sec. 1310. Sense of Congress regarding veterans employment at the Department of State.
Sec. 1311. Employee assignment restrictions and preclusions.
Sec. 1312. Recall and reemployment of career members.
Sec. 1313. Strategic staffing plan for the Department of State.
Sec. 1314. Consulting services.
Sec. 1315. Incentives for critical posts.
Sec. 1316. Extension of authority for certain accountability review boards.
Sec. 1317. Foreign Service suspension without pay.
Sec. 1318. Foreign Affairs Manual and Foreign Affairs Handbook changes.
Sec. 1319. Waiver authority for individual occupational requirements of certain positions.
Sec. 1320. Appointment of employees to the Global Engagement Center.
Sec. 1321. Rest and recuperation and overseas operations leave for Federal employees.
Sec. 1322. Emergency medical services authority.
Sec. 1323. Department of State Student Internship Program.
Sec. 1324. Competitive status for certain employees hired by Inspectors General to support the lead IG mission.
Sec. 1325. Cooperation with Office of the Inspector General.
Sec. 1326. Information on educational opportunities for children with special educational needs consistent with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act.
Sec. 1327. Implementation of gap memorandum in selection board process.

TITLE IV—A DIVERSE WORKFORCE: RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, AND PROMOTION

Sec. 1401. Definitions.
Sec. 1402. Collection, analysis, and dissemination of workforce data.
Sec. 1403. Exit interviews for workforce.