



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021

No. 88

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 20, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DIANA DEGETTE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

Loving and eternal God, call us to rejoice in You always.

Draw near to us this day that our hearts would be inclined toward patience, and in Your presence, may the gentleness that comes from our relationship with You be evident in us.

Draw near to us this day that we would not be anxious about anything, not things past, not things present, nor the future before us.

But in Your presence, may we approach every situation in prayer and petition and with thanksgiving.

Draw near to us as we present our requests to You, and grant us Your peace, which transcends all understanding. In Your presence, may Your peace guard our hearts and minds.

Draw near to us so that we can only think about what is true, what is noble, what is right, what is pure, what is lovely, what is admirable. When we are in Your presence, may we see that all these things are of You, excellent and praiseworthy.

Draw near to us as we proceed in our affairs. And in Your presence, may we

put into practice all that we have learned or received or heard in faith.

God of peace, be with us. And may we find joy in Your nearness.

To You our God and creator, be glory forever and ever.
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 gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. DEAN 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 five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE OF TAX CREDITS

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to emphasize the importance of the earned income tax credit and the child tax credit for my constituents in my district. Because of the severe winter storms earlier this year, Texans can still file their tax returns until June 15—I repeat, until June 15.

Single filers who make \$75,000 or less annually and heads of household who earn \$112,500 annually could benefit from the full earned income tax credit and child tax credits if they file their taxes on time.

In my district alone, President Biden's new 1-year expansion of the child tax credit will lift 213,500 children out of poverty. That means that 95 percent of the children in my district would benefit.

Because of this, I am urging all of my constituents to file their taxes even if they don't normally do so. Working families and children need these dollars now more than ever.

I am glad that the improved and expanded child tax credit will be arriving soon to help families in my district and in Texas.

MODIFYING STOCK VEHICLES FOR RACING

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

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, motorsports are one of America's favorite pastimes and play an important role in our economy.

Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District is home to Selinsgrove Speedway, Clinton County Motor Speedway, Port Royal Speedway, Beaver Springs Dragway, and thousands of racing fans, myself included. Some of my best memories are at the raceway, enjoying the sights and sounds with our community and family.

That is why I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the Recognizing the Protection of Motorsports Act, or the RPM act. Automotive fans have long altered stock vehicles for competitive racing, a practice that is as old as the sport itself. In 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency issued a proposed rule that would make modifying stock vehicles for racing illegal. The

□ 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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RPM Act would ensure that this doesn't happen, permanently protecting this practice.

The racing industry has a rich history, and I believe it should be protected from burdensome regulatory barriers.

CALLING FOR SWIFT CEASE-FIRE

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

Mr. BOWMAN. Madam Speaker, the violence that is unfolding in Palestine and Israel is tragic and urgent. I rise today to voice my strong support for a swift cease-fire.

I have heard directly from my constituents in New York's 16th Congressional District. Parents with children living in both Israel and Palestine have written in, and their fear for their children's safety is palpable.

Their voices are with me today and have made this situation personal. This is the worst escalation of violence in the region in years.

I have continually called for President Biden to step in and rapidly broker a cease-fire to deescalate the situation, end the occupation, and finally find peace.

To that end, I will introduce a resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire and diplomatic efforts to resume in earnest, which is a resolution Senator SANDERS has led in the Senate. We have to do more. We must do more.

SUPPORTING ISRAEL OVER HAMAS

(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 to deliver a clear message: The United States must stand shoulder to shoulder with the State of Israel. The choice for the politicians in this Chamber should be simple.

On one side, you have Hamas, a terrorist organization that fired thousands of rockets at civilians in Israel. Their founding charter even calls for Israel's destruction.

On the other side, you have Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East. They are our longtime friend and ally, and they are a force for stability in the region.

The deescalation of this conflict should begin and end with Hamas. They must stop their terrorist attacks on Israeli citizens immediately.

Until they do, Israel has every right to defend themselves, and the United States of America should have their back.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DENISE BURSTEIN

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

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor my constituent and friend, Denise Burstein. Denise passed away on May 13 due to complications related to ALS.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and community leader. She was a woman of diverse passions and talent, an avid knitter, quilter, radio operator, and I recently learned that she had a black belt in karate.

She devoted her life to helping others, working as a school speech and language therapist and continuing to help children even after her retirement.

She was first to volunteer, whether it was as a local committeeperson with the Boy Scouts, coaching, training therapy dogs, or, after her diagnosis, helping spread awareness of ALS.

To know Denise is to know her husband, Frank. They are two parts of a single smile, wonderful hosts whose brunches are the places to be for friendship, politics, and delicious food.

I join Denise's family, friends, and wider community in mourning the loss of an incredible woman. I am better for having known her.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HANK HUCKABY

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Hank Huckaby, who passed away on April 14 at the age of 79.

Hank was a lifelong public servant who served the State of Georgia in numerous capacities for more than 50 years. He held a number of top roles in Georgia government and education, including chancellor of Georgia's public colleges and universities, executive director of the Georgia Housing and Finance Authority, director of the Office of Planning and Budget, and in the Georgia House of Representatives.

Put simply, Hank was devoted to serving the people of Georgia. His public service extended out of the workplace, volunteering his time and leadership in various civic and religious organizations throughout his life.

Madam Speaker, Hank Huckaby was a graduate of Young Harris College, and I had the privilege of serving with him on the board of trustees of Young Harris College. He loved Young Harris College, and Young Harris College loved him.

Hank was a strong leader, a source of strength, and a true friend to all who knew him. He will be greatly missed.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

SENATE MUST SUPPORT COMMISSION ON JANUARY 6 SIEGE

(Mr. SCHNEIDER asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bipartisan national commission to investigate the January 6 siege on the Capitol.

I was in this Chamber that day. I took cover in the gallery as police barred the door and drew their guns. I escaped with my colleagues to watch from a secure location to watch the last vestiges of the attack play out. I was proud to return to this Chamber that night to complete our constitutional duty.

The events that transpired on January 6 on these grounds were not just an attack on the building and the people who work here. It was an effort to undermine our democracy and steal an election.

The immediate threat to the Capitol was repelled, but the threat to our democracy remains. Every American who believes our Constitution is the bedrock of our Nation should demand this commission, demand that we understand what conditions led up to and enabled the January 6 insurrection, and ensure that nothing like it happens again.

It is now up to the Senate to pass the bill for the good of our country. If not, the House must be prepared to proceed on its own.

HONORING RICH O'BRIEN

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

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to speak on behalf of a great American and constituent of mine, Rich O'Brien.

Rich's story is one that inspires hope. He is the operations manager for PGA HOPE Charleston. PGA HOPE stands for Helping Our Patriots Everywhere, and it is the PGA's flagship program to do military outreach.

As one of the leaders of the golf therapy movement, he is a testament to hope. Madam Speaker, 12½ years ago, he was on his deathbed, paralyzed from the neck down after a catastrophic injury where he broke his back, his neck, and had four skull fracture injuries and brain damage in every lobe. Rich died three times at the scene of the accident before an EMT was able to revive him and eventually place him into an induced coma.

He was lucky, though, and eventually regained feeling in his fingers and toes and learned to walk and talk again. He was able to use golf therapy to rehabilitate his injuries.

Following his own recovery, he started helping others to use golf therapy and became an advocate for others with disabilities. As Charleston welcomed the PGA Championship this weekend, Rich deserves applause and praise for his charity and willingness to help other veterans like him through golf therapy.