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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 2, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ED PERLMUTTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 10, 2022, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

24TH WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an event that many Americans look forward to every 4 years: The Winter Olympics.

In a few days, millions around the world will tune in to watch their country compete in the 24th Winter Olympic Games in Beijing, China. The spirit of the Olympics is one of sportsmanship, friendship, competition, and na-

tional pride for viewers and athletes around the world.

Unfortunately, several years ago the International Olympic Committee selected a host country that is one of the last Communist nations in the world, enslaves workers in sweatshops, forces sterilization upon minority women, punishes those who speak out against the dictatorship, imprisons and murders ethnic minorities, and lied to the world about a global pandemic that has killed millions and changed our lives forever.

Almost every freedom that Americans take for granted is nonexistent under the rule of the Chinese Communist Party. The government has created countless human rights abuses against its people, including the genocide of the Uyghur Muslim population. To this day, they have blocked the rest of the world from learning more about the origins of COVID-19, something that is important for our national security and our public health.

Meanwhile, the majority has thrown away months of bipartisan work and has decided to push another partisan bill that will not pass the Senate or become law in its current form. Included in the so-called America COMPETES Act are several provisions that have nothing to do with China. This bill gives billions to the United Nations Green Climate Fund. It mentions the word "coral" more than the word "China." This bill gives no sanctions, punishment, or funding for an investigation into the Chinese Communist Party's cover-up of the origins of COVID-19.

And hidden on page 1519, this legislation also allows the President to use emergency powers until the President declares the COVID-19 national emergency is over, or September of 2025; coincidentally, after the next Presidential election. The vast majority of the American people believe that COVID is unfortunately going to be

with us for a long time and desire transparent information so that we can learn to live with it and treat it rather than living in perpetual fear. The national emergency should end no later than this year, and Congress should work in a bipartisan way to end unending emergency powers. We should also act to hold China accountable for lying to the world about a global pandemic and for the human rights atrocities they have committed.

The Chinese Government is known to arbitrarily arrest and hold Americans against their will to blackmail our government. The government has a long track record of spying on Americans, placing microphones and cameras wherever they can. They have no concept of privacy and will gladly find a way to collect DNA samples and as much information as possible on our world-class athletes. I believe the overwhelming majority of the Chinese people are just like us, but the actions of their government have given us no reason to trust them.

Going forward, I do not believe that a country with a human rights track record like that of the People's Republic of China should be given the honor of hosting the Olympic Games.

I pray for the safety, health, and success of American athletes, coaches, and support staff during their time abroad and wish them all the best of luck. I know they will make all of us back home proud.

TEACHING HISTORY IN AMERICA

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, a proud African American. I rise today because we are into Black History Month, the second day, and I rise today because I am very much concerned about history in this country. For you see, Mr. Speaker,

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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there are efforts across the length and breadth of the country to distort history and, in many instances, not to allow it to be taught.

Can you imagine Black history not being taught in this country? That would make Black History Month more important, but my hope is that at some point we don't need Black History Month because history will be taught every day and there won't be a need to accentuate the things that have happened to African Americans in this country. But the notion that we can't teach the true history of what happened to us in the United States of America and what happened to the people in the United States of America is offensive.

And it is not just about African Americans, by the way. It is also about Jewish people, not being able to teach what happened to Jewish people. Can you imagine more than six million people murdered, and we can't teach this in our schools? The number is not known truly. Huge number. And what happened to them? How were they killed? They weren't just murdered in concentration camps. Many of them were murdered in their homes, in their yards, in the ghettos. And that can't be taught?

If we can't teach Black history, we probably won't be able to teach the Trail of Tears and what happened to the indigenous Americans, how they were harmed by virtue of the State itself intentionally causing them to receive certain diseases. We won't be able to teach what happened to the Asians who came to this country, internment camps.

Black History Month is very important to us. We have to have it, but more than have Black History Month, we have got to have the history of what has happened taught because those who don't learn the lessons of history are doomed to repeat the lessons of history.

And finally this: This House needs to go on record. We need to go on record. We need to take a stand. We need to let the world know that we will support the teaching of history in schools. To do anything less is to cause us to be placed in the position of having not lived up to the promises of this country. We should do it. I hope that this House will go on record appropriately doing so.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
CHRIS WALSH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris Walsh, who tragically lost his long fight against cancer on January 24, 2022. Chris was a dear friend to all, a devoted husband, a father to two beautiful young girls, a Cal State Fullerton graduate, and hardworking public servant who served the 74th Assembly District of Cali-

fornia in Assemblyman Matt Harper's office, the city of Irvine in Councilman Mike Carroll's office, and most recently California's 39th District in my Placentia district office.

While we remain heartbroken that he was taken from us way too soon, all of us who had the pleasure of knowing him remain inspired by his courage, persistence, and integrity in the face of the worst adversity.

I first met Chris when he was a young, impressive, and ambitious young man interning at the office of Congressman Ed Royce, who I was working for at the time. At the age of 25, he found out that he was diagnosed with a terminal cancer and was told by doctors that perhaps he would maybe have only 2 months to live.

This is daunting news for anyone to hear. However, instead of letting this change the course of his life, he took charge and defied the odds over the next several years, having a productive career, meeting his beautiful wife, Amanda, and having two girls.

Chris was gracious to everyone and lit up every room with his kindness, sense of humor, and charisma. He was always willing to pitch in and help out our team, his friends, and loved ones. He made all of us work harder and brought out the best versions of each of us every day. Without Chris, I would not be here in Congress nor would I be the person that I am today.

Chris would often spend his evenings after work cheering on our Anaheim Angels, and I am comforted in knowing that his loved ones, including his wife, Amanda, and daughters, Amelia and Madeline, will have their guardian angel watching over and protecting them.

Amanda, you know that Chris loved you with all his heart, mind, and soul until he took his last breath. You were the light of his life, and he enjoyed talking about you and your beautiful two girls that you created together. You were his everything, and I want to thank you for loving him the way you did, giving him unconditional love.

Crystal and Mike, as a parent and mom, I feel your pain and the sadness of losing a son. And to Katherine, I am sorry that you lost the only sibling that you had. I want you to know that Chris was not just someone who worked for me. I, too, loved him like my own son.

Crystal, I remember you telling me that minutes after Chris passed how you were holding his hand and praying to God to show you some signs that he would be fine, and you thought you saw Chris smile. Yes, I believe that was a true sign that Chris was smiling because he has arrived at the gate of Heaven, and he is now resting comfortably in the arms of Jesus.

My heart remains with the Walsh family, friends, and relatives as we continue to mourn a life that was taken from us too soon. We are grateful for the positive influence that Chris had on so many of us while he lived a full and productive life.

SUPPORTING AMERICA'S SMALLER BUSINESSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we consider legislation to strengthen supply chains and to stand up for our small businesses. For years, we have been too reliant on goods made in other countries.

The pandemic has exacerbated and exposed that reality. We have seen shortages from personal protective equipment to ventilators and semiconductor chips. Those supply chain weaknesses continue to contribute to rising prices and inflation.

We should be making more in America. We have many small businesses in Kansas and across the country that are willing and able to step up to the plate.

As we take up the America COMPETES Act this week, legislation drafted with both parties and aimed at creating jobs, addressing inflation, and strengthening American manufacturing, it is absolutely essential that we include small and medium manufacturers in our consideration.

In my district, the Kansas Third, we have businesses who pivoted their entire production lines to fill gaps in our medical supply chains, helping protect frontline healthcare workers amid significant shortages in personal protective equipment early in the pandemic. At that time, nurses and hospital staff were having to reuse masks and gowns, putting themselves at incredible risk.

We were slowed by our reliance on foreign-made supplies, and here we had small businesses that were ready to help if we had just given them a chance.

The America COMPETES Act includes a program to build a stable and adaptable supply chain for our national stockpile, one that is flexible enough to react in emergency situations without completely breaking down, as it did before. As we work to build that flexibility, it would be a mistake to shut out the producers we have right here at home.

My amendment is going to ensure that when we are restocking and restructuring our strategic national stockpile that we are working with a range of businesses. It would require that smaller manufacturers get a seat at the table, not just big corporations, because I can tell you from experience that they stand ready to pitch in, ready to train and employ our workers. It is our job to ensure they get the chance to do just that.

The America COMPETES Act is a major opportunity to deal in our domestic industries and workers. It is an opportunity to address root causes of inflation and bring down our costs long term, one particularly important example being incentives for domestic semiconductor manufacturing. And it is an opportunity for us to invest in