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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

Holy God, receive us into Your eternal presence and grant us the discernment of Your direction and the peace of Your purpose for the deliberations of this day. Silence, if only for a moment, all voices but Your own, that we would hear Your counsel and receive Your instruction without the echoes of competing opinion or the whispers of our own self desire.

Speak in words that we can hear, whether in a still, small voice of encouragement or a clarion call to action, may we receive Your message for us today.

Sway our hearts to Your desire that in all we say and do we would strive to live into Your will. Then share with us the blessing of the sacrament of human encounter, that in the outward visible signs You provide, a stranger's selfless service, shared laughter with a friend, or a random glimpse of the pure beauty of Your creation, we would experience the inward, invisible grace You offer us in each moment.

Would that Your eyes be open and Your ears attentive to the prayers we offer in this place, for it is in the promise of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 1289, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Ms. McCOLLUM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. McCOLLUM 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 12, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of a letter received from Mr. Steve Simon, Secretary of State of Minnesota, indicating that, according to the unofficial results for the Special Election held August 9, 2022, the Honorable Brad Finstad was elected for Representative to Congress for the First Congressional District, State of Minnesota.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

STATE OF MINNESOTA,
OFFICE OF MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF
STATE,
August 10, 2022.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, for Representative in Congress from the 1st Congressional District of Minnesota, show that Brad Finstad received 59,797 votes, or 50.77% of the 117,784 votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Brad Finstad was elected as Representative in Congress from the 1st Congressional District of Minnesota.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all counties involved and canvassed by the State Canvassing Board, and the times for requesting a recount, filing a contest, or the statutorily required seven day waiting period, have expired, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by Minnesota law.

Sincerely,

STEVE SIMON,
Secretary of State of Minnesota.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE BRAD FINSTAD OF MINNESOTA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Minnesota, the Honorable BRAD FINSTAD, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the members of the Minnesota delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise his right hand.

BRAD FINSTAD appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 117th Congress.

□ 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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WELCOMING THE HONORABLE
BRAD FINSTAD TO THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) is recognized for 1 minute. There was no objection.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, on behalf of myself and the entire delegation from Minnesota, I would like to welcome Representative BRAD FINSTAD to the House of Representatives.

Hailing from New Ulm, Minnesota, Representative FINSTAD continues a proud tradition within the Minnesota Congressional Delegation of a life of public service and a commitment to agricultural issues and rural development.

From 2003 to 2009, he served as a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, including a term as assistant minority leader.

In the previous administration, Representative FINSTAD served as Minnesota's Director of USDA Rural Development. He has also held leadership positions in the Center for Rural Policy and Development and the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association. And I will brag for a second that Minnesota is the largest turkey producer in the United States. You don't have Thanksgiving without us.

Today, Representative FINSTAD continues a proud generational tradition with his wife, Jackie, of running their family farm in the New Ulm area, and I am sure all the children pitch in and help with chores.

We look forward to warmly welcoming Representative FINSTAD and his family to Congress.

Madam Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER), my colleague.

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, we come together to honor a friend and colleague who we lost earlier this year, and to welcome a new Member into the House of Representatives, our friend, Mr. BRAD FINSTAD.

Six months have passed since we lost our friend Jim Hagedorn to cancer, and his absence continues to be felt in this Chamber and throughout southern Minnesota. Our thoughts remain with his family, as we all know how significant a loss it has been for them and for all of us.

Earlier this week, however, the residents of Minnesota's First Congressional District elected BRAD FINSTAD to carry out Congressman Hagedorn's legacy of relentless representation in the House of Representatives. They could not have made a better choice.

As a fourth generation Minnesotan, BRAD truly represents the best values of our State. Honesty, integrity, and the willingness to answer the call to serve. Born and raised on his family farm in New Ulm, Minnesota, BRAD grew up understanding the importance of a hard day's work, a trade he still appreciates and carries with him every single day.

After graduating from the University of Minnesota, his work on the family

farm led BRAD to join the Minnesota Farm Bureau and eventually to serve three terms in the Minnesota House of Representatives.

In 2017, BRAD was appointed by President Trump as the Director of Rural Development of USDA in the State of Minnesota. While there, he worked to improve the lives of farmers throughout our home State. That earned him the respect and admiration of his community in southern Minnesota.

Even through his successful election to the House of Representatives, BRAD, his wife, Jaclyn, and their seven children, continued to operate the family farm in New Ulm. He and his wife met on a school bus in the second grade, and as a husband and father of seven, BRAD and Jackie have raised their children on the values of faith, family, and hard work.

On behalf of the entire Minnesota delegation, please join us in welcoming Representative BRAD FINSTAD, his wife, Jaclyn, and their seven wonderful children to the United States Congress.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. FINSTAD), our new Representative.

Mr. FINSTAD. Madam Speaker, I thank Leader MCCARTHY, and the Minnesota delegation.

Madam Speaker, it is an extraordinary honor to be here and to be chosen by my southern Minnesota friends, families, and neighbors to serve in this Congress.

First, let's take time to remember my predecessor, the late Congressman Hagedorn. He was a true fighter for southern Minnesota, and he was a great example of hard work and what we strive to be in Minnesota.

I thank my wife, Jackie, and these hooligans up front, my seven kids.

Thank you, guys.

I thank my parents, my brother, sister-in-law—everyone, just thank you so much. We really couldn't do this without you, so I just appreciate you being here and the support and love that you have given us our entire lives.

Madam Speaker, people in my district sent a farmer to Congress. I tell people that when I wake up, I have dirt under my fingernails—sorry, Jackie. I don't clean up that well. But I drive a John Deere tractor, and on the farm, when we wake up in the morning, we know something will be broke. So we wake up trying to figure out, How am I going to fix things?

So really, to me, serving in Congress is all about that. Rolling up my sleeves, taking that farmer mentality, figuring what is broke, and how we are going to fix it, and move on. That is the farmer in me, and that is the southern Minnesotan in me, born and raised. That is the DNA that Jackie and I have had in our generations of families that have built a farm and agribusiness in south central Minnesota.

We inherited the best country on Earth from the last generation. I think quite often of those that have given blood, sweat, and tears to give us the

greatest country in the world. As I look at my seven children and the children across southern Minnesota and across this country, I know that we can do better, and it is up to us to make sure that we are leaving them a better country than we have been left.

Madam Speaker, with that attitude, with that work ethic, and with my compassion and hope to meet all of you and work with you, I just very humbly say thank you. I am ready to get to work.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentleman from Minnesota, the whole number of the House is 431.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LEVIN of California). Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by the Speaker on the following dates:

Friday, August 5, 2022:

S. 3373, a bill to improve the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant and the Children of Fallen Heroes Grant.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by the Speaker on Wednesday, August 10, 2022:

H.R. 2992, to direct the Attorney General to develop crisis intervention training tools for use by first responders related to interacting with persons who have a traumatic brain injury, another form of acquired brain injury, or post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5313, to protect children and other consumers against hazards associated with the accidental ingestion of button cell or coin batteries by requiring the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard to require child-resistant closures on consumer products that use such batteries, and for other purposes;

H.R. 6943, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize public safety officer death benefits to officers suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or acute stress disorder, and for other purposes;

S. 3451, a bill to include certain computer-related projects in the Federal permitting program under title XLI of the FAST Act, and for other purposes.