

Ms. DELBENE 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.

#### RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Natural Resources:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
September 14, 2022.

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

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write today to request to be removed from the House Natural Resources Committee to allow newly elected Representative Peltola from Alaska to serve on this important committee. I am confident Ms. Peltola will bring a unique and crucial perspective to the committee.

It has been an honor to serve on the Natural Resources Committee and to work on issues of vital importance to Massachusetts' citizens.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

LORI TRAHAN,  
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

#### RESIGNATIONS AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES AND COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignations as a member of the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Education and Labor:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 14, 2022.

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

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write today to request to be removed from the House Armed Services Committee and the House Education and Labor Committee so that I can fulfill my new role as a member of the House Appropriations Committee.

It has been an honor to serve on the House Armed Services Committee and the House Education and Labor Committee during my time in Congress and I am grateful for the opportunities these committees provided to advocate for issues of vital importance to New York. I look forward to serving the people of New York in my new role on the House Appropriations Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH D. MORELLE,  
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignations are accepted.

There was no objection.

#### 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 RICARDO MARQUES, JR.

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

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, today, we recognize the late Ricardo Marques, Jr., an outstanding American who passed away in July after battling cancer.

Everything that Rick did in his accomplished life was done for his family and in service to our great Nation. Rick was a marine who defended our Nation honorably prior to joining the Bureau of Prisons.

Rick spent nearly 30 years with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, working at both USP Lewisburg and FCC Allenwood in Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District prior to retiring.

Having toured both of these facilities, it is clear that the men and women who work there are outstanding individuals. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that it takes an enormous amount of fortitude and sacrifice to do that work.

Everyone who knew Rick remembers him as a natural-born leader and as a man who left a lasting impression of love and respect on everyone he encountered. America is better off because of Rick's contributions and work.

It is my hope that Rick's family finds comfort in his legacy and lifetime of service.

#### U.S. MUST REGAIN ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

(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. Mr. Speaker, under President Donald Trump, in 2020, America exported more petroleum than it imported for the first time since 1949. Donald Trump achieved energy independence.

However, since Biden came to office, the national average for a gallon of gasoline is over \$1.30 higher per gallon; electricity costs are 15 percent more; and at this point, Biden has leased fewer acres of offshore and Federal land for domestic oil and gas production than any President in 70 years. Also, on day one of his Presidency, Biden killed the Keystone XL pipeline, which could be supplying 800,000 barrels of oil a day from Canada to America.

Higher gas prices increase delivery costs, increasing Bidenflation, which destroys jobs.

Irresponsible decisions by Biden and the Democrats are responsible for the energy crisis.

God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism moves from a safe haven in Afghanistan to America. We will always cherish the service of Congresswoman Jackie Walorski. And God bless Ukraine victory.

#### ECONOMY IS CRATERING

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

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act is bringing fire and rain to the White House and to the American people.

Yesterday, Biden and a host of celebrities and politicians, highlighted by a James Taylor serenade, celebrated their Inflation Reduction Act even as the economy cratered in real time.

As the President spiked the football on his supposed accomplishment, the Dow tanked nearly 1,300 points and the Consumer Price Index rose to 8.3 percent.

President Biden and Speaker PELOSI have taken every opportunity to herald deficit reduction, the so-called Inflation Reduction Act, and what it would provide. But the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office just updated the score on the new law, and it is worse than we thought. The reckless government spending on the Green New Deal policies in this bill will increase our deficit spending through 2026.

This means the IRS will need to take an additional \$60 billion from middle-class Americans through increased audits to pay for this out-of-control spending.

It shouldn't surprise anyone that we are already suffering the negative effects of this spending. But Democrats are basking in the sunshine of their political accomplishment despite the economic storm it brings for the American people.

Remember: Democrats aren't just taking more money out of your wallet; they are celebrating it.

#### HELPING VETERANS ACCESS BENEFITS

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

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 5916, the Wounded Warrior Access Act.

When veterans file claims to the VA, they are given what is called a c-file. My office has heard from countless numbers of veterans who have had trouble accessing these c-files through the VA's outdated and antiquated system. Our veterans need these files in order to access benefits that they have earned or appeal the VA's decisions about their claims.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, this legislation is so important. The veterans in the Inland Empire and across this country need an easy way to access

their information without jumping through these hoops. My bill is a commonsense solution that updates an antiquated system.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman TAKANO and members of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for their leadership in bringing this bill to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting "aye" on H.R. 5916.

#### HONORING JOHN TREES

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Trees.

Mr. Trees lived in Springfield, Illinois, and was the loving husband to our own district office's Candice Trees. On September 28 of this year, they would have celebrated 48 years of marriage.

John was a proud veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving during the Vietnam war. After his years of service, John went on to become a skilled laborer and accomplished carpenter.

Once retiring from the Illinois Department of Transportation, John had more time to do what he loved. Combining his love of food and serving others, John started his own catering business aptly named Two Drunks in the Dark Catering.

He truly enjoyed spending time with his wife, three daughters, and five grandchildren. Going on yearly trips to St. Louis Cardinal games or attending his grandchildren's sporting events were just a few things "Papa John" loved to do.

John would be the first to lend a hand and always had a welcoming door at his home. John was always great at providing advice and giving direction to those who needed him the most.

We honor John today, and I send my deepest condolences to Candice and the entire Trees family during this very difficult time.

#### FAMINE, BLACKOUTS, AND RATIONING

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, by using diesel-powered equipment, nitrogen, and other fertilizers, American farmers feed our Nation and are the number one exporter of food worldwide.

My fellow farmers and I are alarmed because Joe Biden and his green bad deal team are in the process of creating a food crisis.

Radical leftists will destroy farms, especially family farms, with attacks on fertilizer and livestock. The leftists are pushing to replace the farmland we need for food with solar panels that are terrible for the environment and made in China.

Without farms, people starve. Radical leftists are causing famine, black-

outs, and rationing in other countries. We cannot let them control our food production.

□ 1215

#### ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1347

*Resolved*, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS: Mr. Morelle.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES: Mr. Ryan of New York, to rank immediately after Ms. Strickland.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES: Mrs. Peltola, to rank immediately after Ms. Stansbury.

Mr. JEFFRIES (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### IS CONGRESS DOING THEIR JOB

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

Mr. CAWTHORN. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this institution can be synthesized into one word—"represent." But can we, as a hallowed and time-honored body truly sit here in the sacred Chamber and say with straight faces that we are fulfilling this calling?

Our woes as a Nation beset us upon every side, and this body has through inaction or, frankly, malicious action, made many crises worse. At the beginning of this Congress our border was in shambles. Can we honestly say the situation has improved even slightly?

At the start of 2021 our economy was teetering. Today the smog and dust of collapse have yet to settle. Today we are weaker domestically, and frighteningly vulnerable internationally. China rises, Russia marches, the Middle East implodes, and this body sits on its hands and names post offices.

Hear this: America cannot be saved through legislation. Men and women of virtue and value must rise to alter the very culture of our Nation. Christ, not Congress, will be what saves this country.

#### 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 a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or if the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any recorded votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

#### CONSENSUS CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's designation, pursuant to clause 7(a)(1) of rule XV of H.R. 3173, as the measure on the Consensus Calendar to be considered this week.

#### IMPROVING SENIORS' TIMELY ACCESS TO CARE ACT OF 2022

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3173) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3173

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act of 2022".

#### SEC. 2. ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE USE OF PRIOR AUTHORIZATION UNDER MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1852 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-22) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(o) PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a Medicare Advantage plan that imposes any prior authorization requirement with respect to any applicable item or service (as defined in paragraph (5)) during a plan year, such plan shall—

"(A) beginning with the third plan year beginning after the date of the enactment of this subsection—

"(i) establish the electronic prior authorization program described in paragraph (2); and

"(ii) meet the enrollee protection standards specified pursuant to paragraph (4); and

"(B) beginning with the fourth plan year beginning after the date of the enactment of this subsection, meet the transparency requirements specified in paragraph (3).

"(2) ELECTRONIC PRIOR AUTHORIZATION PROGRAM.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(A), the electronic prior authorization program described in this paragraph is a program that provides for the secure electronic transmission of—

"(i) a prior authorization request from a provider of services or supplier to a Medicare Advantage plan with respect to an applicable item or service to be furnished to an individual and a response, in accordance with this paragraph, from such plan to such provider or supplier; and

"(ii) any attachment relating to such request or response.

"(B) ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION.—

"(i) EXCLUSIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph, a facsimile, a proprietary payer