



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022

No. 22

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 3, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable KATHERINE M. CLARK 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:

You are the Lord, You alone. You have made the Heavens with all their host, the Earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. To each and every living creature You give life; all of Heaven worships You.

So may we be a nation at prayer. In Your merciful hands we place the protection of our country, the welfare of its citizens.

We humble ourselves before You this day and confess our wanderings from You. May we return to You and receive Your promise to heal our land.

Thus, may our contrition inspire our recommitment to the people and purposes You have called us to serve. May our repentance be the foundation of faith which brings forth Your favor over this Nation. May our remorse become the reason for reconciliation with those with whom we disagree deeply.

Bless us, O Lord, and embolden us—as individuals, as a body, as a nation—to live lives holy and acceptable in Your sight.

In Your sovereign 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 gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TLAIB 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.

HISTORY CANNOT BE ERASED

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

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a printing of a painting done by a talented Detroit artist, Jonathan Harris.

Jonathan named the painting “Critical Race Theory.” It gives me chills as I look at it on how the contrived fight against our history, Black history specifically, seeks to erase the fight, struggle, triumphs, and success of our Black neighbors in our country.

So as many of us recognize and celebrate Black History Month, I implore those who are pushing to erase our history, including many colleagues in this body, to stop with the empty words and gestures. You cannot erase history to

paint the picture you want. We won't stand for it.

BORDER CRISIS BECOMES A FENTANYL CRISIS

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

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today because every State is now a border State. A border crisis is now a fentanyl crisis. But don't take it from me, take it from the sheriffs in my district.

Bartholomew County Sheriff Matt Myers said, “Fentanyl is coming into our country from our southern border. It is becoming an increasing problem, and it is killing our citizens.”

Randolph County Sheriff Art Moystner said, “Our guys on the ground tell us they know these drugs are coming through Dayton via the southern border.”

Hancock County Sheriff Brad Burkhart said, “Illegal drugs coming across the border affects everyone, and Indiana is not immune.”

In Decatur County, Sheriff Dave Durant explained it like this, “Fentanyl in our communities is not just a thing, it is the thing.”

Democrats, stop downplaying this crisis. It is killing Hoosiers in Indiana.

LUNAR NEW YEAR IS A TIME OF CELEBRATION

(Ms. BASS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, Lunar New Year is a time of celebration for so many people in Los Angeles and millions around the world.

As we welcome the Year of the Tiger—a symbol of bravery—we honor the history and heritage of the Asian Pacific Islander communities across America and stand in support and active defense in the face of challenges,

□ 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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like the rise of anti-Asian violence and hate.

Over the past 2 years, I have been greatly alarmed and concerned by what I have seen and heard from businessowners, restaurant owners, teachers, parents, and young people in my district and across the country.

To honor the celebration of the Lunar New Year, I have cosponsored legislation led by my colleague GRACE MENG to make Lunar New Year a Federal holiday in the U.S.

I want to wish everyone warm wishes of health, success, and happiness in the years ahead. Though many were not able to gather in person with their families to celebrate this week, we continue to forge ahead in our recovery from the pandemic.

FENTANYL-RELATED DEATHS ARE RISING

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

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today deeply alarmed by the increase in fentanyl-related deaths in my district.

According to the San Bernardino County sheriff, there were over 100 fentanyl-related incidents in my district in the last year, resulting in the death of nearly 100 of my constituents. In fact, Madam Speaker, in the last 3 years, fentanyl-related deaths in my community have increased over 600 percent. According to the sheriff, this is a direct result of the trafficking of fentanyl across our southern border with Mexico.

Last year the Inland Empire regional drug task force seized over 600 pounds of fentanyl, and they estimate the majority of that originated in Mexico.

Madam Speaker, this is a direct result of our failure to secure our southern border and the changes in Federal policy as relates to the southern border that have been enacted in the last year.

Madam Speaker, we must stop this trafficking of fentanyl across the border and protect our community by securing our southern border.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE ESTEBAN TORRES

(Ms. SÁNCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of the late Congressman Esteban Torres, a dedicated public servant, trailblazer for Latino political power, and a champion for the working class.

Congressman Esteban Torres dedicated his life to serving his community, early on as a labor leader and eventually in Congress and the White House.

He was among the first Latinos elected to Congress, paving the way for in-

creased representation across all levels of government.

As a Member of this body, Congressman Torres proudly represented the community in which he was raised and much of the community that I am proud to serve today.

He fought with integrity for the rights of immigrants, environmental justice, and economic empowerment.

His legacy will live on in the communities he represented and in the hearts that he touched.

I send my sincere condolences to his family and all who knew him.

OUR NATIONAL DEBT SHOULD SCARE US ALL

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

Mr. FEENSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today as our national debt has reached the \$30 trillion marker for the first time in our Nation's history. This enormous figure should scare us all.

Since 1990, our national debt has grown tenfold, and there is no indication that \$30 trillion is the ceiling.

In Iowa, I helped pass the State law that rightfully requires that we spend no more than 99 percent of the money we take in, creating a balanced budget each year.

This is exactly what we should be doing in our Federal Government. We cannot continue to print money, increase our debt, and ask Iowans to foot the bill.

As a strong fiscal hawk, I will continue to fight against the wasteful pork-barrel spending that fuels inflation, raises taxes, and increases the cost of living on every family.

This is exactly what Iowans expect from me, and I plan to deliver.

ATTEMPTS TO OVERTURN ELECTION SHOULD BE PUNISHED

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

Mr. POCAN. Madam Speaker, the attempted insurrection of our government on January 6 last year is a stain that will forever live on our country, but equally dirty were the other attempts to illegally overturn our November 2020 elections, including the shady Trump campaign efforts to place false electors in seven States, including my home State of Wisconsin.

Violent attacks on Capitol Police and breaking into the U.S. Capitol are very visual scenes of the illegal schemes, but we cannot let the more stealthy, yet very strategic, plots of trying to place illegal electors to overturn the will of the voters in swing States go by unnoticed or unpunished.

Just yesterday The New York Times released a memo by the Trump campaign written a month and a half prior to January 6 setting up the case to in-

stall false electors in Wisconsin and six other States.

The problem with these schemes was it also needed complicity from then-Vice President Mike Pence, who chose his country over his party and didn't illegally overturn the election as the Trump campaign wanted.

Those involved with this illegal attack on our Republic should be investigated and held accountable by both the January 6th Select Committee as well as the U.S. Department of Justice. Forged documents, false claims, and other illegal actions are crimes and are no different than the violent attack on the Capitol Building itself. And for that, our Nation deserves justice.

REMEMBERING JOHN THOMAS LONG

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend John Thomas Long. We all knew him as Tom. You know, I got a chance to meet Tom Long through my former bosses, my former direct boss, Craig Roberts, and my big boss at the time, a guy named John Shimkus, who used to serve in this Chamber.

Tom was a friend to them, and he immediately became a friend to me. Tom was somebody who was a giant in the legal community in and around the metro east area of Illinois. He served as a law clerk for the Department of Justice. He was the CEO of Argosy Gaming. He was a member of the White House advance team. He was a delegate to the 1988 Republican Convention, but I met him when he was the Madison County Republican Party chairman.

Tom was a guy who was active all throughout his community, but what he was most active in doing was loving his family and making sure his family was his highest priority.

Tom passed away just this past week, and my heartfelt prayers and thoughts go out to his wife, Robin, and his three daughters: Margaret, Erin, and Emma.

Madison County, Illinois, and Illinois and this country lost a giant in Tom Long. He will be missed. May God rest his soul.

□ 1215

MAKING CRITICAL INVESTMENTS IN AMERICA'S FUTURE

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

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the America COMPETES Act, which includes two of my amendments.

This bill includes important provisions that enhance our ability to attract the best talent from around the world, such as scientists and engineers