

God and creator of us all, You are above all and through all and in all. May we each give testimony to the grace and peace to be found in You.

We offer this prayer in Your most holy name.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. McCormick) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCCORMICK 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.

#### TAX RELIEF FOR DISASTER VICTIMS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, victims of disaster don't need to be hassled by government, especially by new taxes.

The 2018 Camp fire in California was the deadliest and most destructive in our State's history. The Fire Victim Trust was set up to compensate these people for their loss and help them rebuild their homes and their lives. However, these fire victims had to deal with the possibility that some of their settlement money and money for attorney's fees that they would pay would be taxed as income by the IRS.

To prevent the further victimization of these folks who lost so much already, Representative THOMPSON and I have introduced a bill to exempt payments from the Fire Victim Trust from being taxed by the IRS.

The bill received bipartisan support in the House and Senate, but was not included in the end-of-session vehicle last year, unfortunately. So, getting this bill passed and signed into law is very important and right.

The survivors need this money to help get their lives going again. They don't need the government as a partner in the middle taking their cut. It is essential we act quickly so that they can get back to their lives and get the dol-

lars moving toward rebuilding their homes and whatever it is they need from having suffered this already.

#### FOSTERING BETTER CONNECTIONS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the United States and Canada enjoy a shared border and shared values. We are friends and trading partners.

Unfortunately, in recent years, we have seen a layering of restrictions that hinder binational movement. This not only makes it hard to cross a bridge, but it hinders binational cooperation. It separates us from one another. It stifles trade and diminishes life quality.

Confusion, hassles, and delays prevent travel and inhibit travel plans.

As President Biden and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meet today to discuss our future, I urge them to leverage our strengths to craft solutions that make it easier for us to connect between two countries, fostering better connections, a better economy, and a better life quality.

#### GRATEFUL FOR NEW LEADERSHIP

(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, I am grateful that with a new Congress is new leadership.

Congratulations to Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Speaker MCCARTHY has a proven record of accomplishments for the American people, and his leadership will be enhanced with Majority Leader STEVE SCALISE, Majority Whip TOM EMMER, Republican Conference Chair ELISE STEFANIK, Republican Conference Vice Chair MIKE JOHNSON, National Republican Congressional Committee Chairman RICHARD HUDSON, and Policy Committee Chairman GARY PALMER.

The Republican majority will immediately begin to implement the Commitment to America that Speaker MCCARTHY coordinated with input from across the country. It promotes an economy that is strong, a Nation that is safe, a future that is built on freedom, and a government that is accountable.

Legislation begins with the Family and Small Business Taxpayer Protection Act, which defunds Biden's army of 87,000 new IRS agents.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who have successfully protected America for 20 years in the global war on terrorism as it continues from Afghanistan's safe haven to America.

Our sympathy to the family of magnificent Lynette "Diamond" Hardaway of North Carolina, and we welcome Delegate JIM MOYLAN of Guam.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF DONALD WILLIAM NOTTOLI

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

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Don Nottoli and celebrate his retirement from the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors after seven terms on the board and a lifetime of service to the Sacramento community.

Don started his public service career in 1977 when he was elected to the Galt High School Board of Trustees. I have had the privilege of working with Don over the years. He is a tireless public servant. All of us get to go to Eagle Scout ceremonies, medal awards, and so forth. Don is at every one of those.

Our community is a much better place because of the service and the representation that we had from Supervisor Don Nottoli.

I extend my congratulations and thank County Supervisor Nottoli for his lifelong dedication to public service in Sacramento County. His commitment to the betterment of our region will stand as an example of public service for years to come.

Sacramento County is a better place to live and raise a family because of Don Nottoli's lifetime of service, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Don Nottoli for his work in our community and his service to our country.

#### FUNDING OF FOREIGN MINING

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

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, we recently learned that the Biden administration is considering funding mining projects abroad with American tax dollars in order to address our country's mineral supply concerns.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen this movie before: President Biden looks to other countries to meet our country's energy needs while our domestic industries are blocked by unnecessary permitting delays and regulatory uncertainty.

If I may offer a suggestion to both the President and my Democratic colleagues, why not in America?

In my home State of Idaho, we have an abundance of resources, including cobalt, gold, silver, tungsten, and antimony. These resources are necessary for the production of batteries, semiconductors, munitions, and countless other essential products.

Instead of looking at countries with hostile motives against America, like Russia and China, to help us meet our demand for critical minerals, we should strengthen our domestic supply chain by enabling the responsible development of our resources at home.

## DEFENDING THE UNBORN

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

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in defense of those who defend the unborn.

I join my esteemed colleague, MIKE JOHNSON, in calling out against violence. Not all of us believe in the Bible, but those who do understand that there are over 100 references to a child before it is born.

For those of us who believe that the child is in existence and recognized by God before they are born, wouldn't it be immoral of those people to not stand up for what they believe is life?

Therefore, I call on all those people who respect those beliefs and respect the Bible, respect their God, that we defend those people in making sure that we don't have violence, and we call out, as a united body, both Democrats and Republicans, to protect those who stand for what is right.

## PRIORITIES FOR SOUTH TEXAS

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

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share my priorities for south Texas.

It is an honor to stand in the people's House. Being here as a single mother and the granddaughter of a Mexican farmworker shows that all things are possible in America through faith and hard work.

That is why I am proud that my first vote is to protect small businesses in south Texas from IRS overreach, which disproportionately hurts low-income Americans and communities like mine. The last thing we need is 87,000 IRS agents harassing south Texans.

Families are struggling. Single moms are struggling. Our Border Patrol lacks resources. After a century of one-party control in my district, we still have entire counties without doctors.

I pledge to work in a bipartisan manner to address these challenges during my time here; to promote prosperity for all Americans, regardless of their race, gender, or creed; and to keep the American Dream alive for the next generation, so help me God.

## CONGRATULATING 2023 FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2023 college football national champions, my alma mater, the University of Georgia Bulldogs.

In a stunning triumph last night, the Georgia Bulldogs defeated the TCU Horned Frogs 65-7, marking the largest margin of victory in bowl game history. After boasting an impressive

undefeated record in the regular season, last night's historic win proved without a doubt that the Dawgs are victorious and on top.

Congratulations to the talented young men that put their all into the game, including a Heisman finalist and four-time College Football Playoff MVP, quarterback Stetson Bennett.

Congratulations to Head Coach Kirby Smart and the entire coaching staff for leading the Georgia Bulldogs in becoming back-to-back national champions.

Go Dawgs.

## HONORING DENNY KELLINGTON

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Buffalo Bills assistant athletic trainer Denny Kellington for his heroic actions saving the life of Bills safety Damar Hamlin during the Bills' January 2 matchup against the Cincinnati Bengals.

Kellington graduated from Oklahoma State in 2000 and spent time working for the Denver Broncos, Ohio State, and even working for upstate New York's very own Syracuse University.

After Hamlin collapsed, Kellington jumped into action and began performing CPR, continuing this life-saving treatment for 9 minutes, saving Hamlin's life and opening the door for his speedy recovery.

Mr. Speaker, Denny Kellington is a hero. All of New York's 24th District, the Bills Mafia, and America are forever grateful for his heroism and leadership during a truly terrifying moment.

Due to his valiant actions, I support the calls for the National Football League to make Denny Kellington the first athletic trainer to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

There is power in prayer, and we are so grateful for Damar's promising recovery.

Go Bills.

## COMMEMORATING THE SERVICE OF RON BUTLER

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate one of west Texas' best, Ron Butler, on his induction into the 2023 Texas Bankers Hall of Fame. On April 27, Ron will be recognized for his outstanding leadership and service in the banking community.

After graduating from Texas Tech University, Mr. Butler went on to join the First Financial Bank family, where he remained for 30 years, and now serves as vice president and chief administrative officer.

Ron is a dedicated family man. He is passionate about serving his community there in Abilene and is not an avid but a rabid Red Raider fan.

I know his wife, Lorilei, and his two children, Trey and Sydney, are very proud of him, and so am I.

God Bless, guns up, and go west Texas.

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## SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE STRATEGIC COMPETITION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, as the designee of the majority leader, pursuant to House Resolution 5, I call up H. Res. 11, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 5, the resolution is considered read.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 11

*Resolved,*

## SECTION 1. SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE STRATEGIC COMPETITION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT; COMPOSITION.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established in the House of Representatives a Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "Select Committee").

(2) COMPOSITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Select Committee shall be composed of not more than 16 Members, Delegates, or the Resident Commissioner appointed by the Speaker, not more than 7 of whom shall be appointed after consultation with the minority leader. The Speaker shall designate one member of the Select Committee as its chair. A vacancy in the membership of the Select Committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(B) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.—The Speaker and the minority leader shall be ex officio members of the Select Committee but shall have no vote in the Select Committee and may not be counted for purposes of determining a quorum.

(C) DESIGNATION OF LEADERSHIP STAFF MEMBER.—The Speaker and the minority leader each may designate a leadership staff member to assist in their capacity as ex officio members, with the same access to Select Committee meetings, hearings, briefings, and materials as employees of the Select Committee and subject to the same security clearance and confidentiality requirements as staff of the Select Committee.

(b) JURISDICTION; FUNCTIONS.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE JURISDICTION.—The Select Committee shall not have legislative jurisdiction and shall have no authority to take legislative action on any bill or resolution.

(2) INVESTIGATIVE JURISDICTION.—The sole authority of the Select Committee shall be to investigate and submit policy recommendations on the status of the Chinese Communist Party's economic, technological, and security progress and its competition with the United States. The Select Committee may, at its discretion, hold public hearings in connection with any aspect of its investigative functions.

(c) PROCEDURE.—