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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

Holy God, we approach You this afternoon because we believe. We believe that not only do You hear our prayers but You answer them. We believe that not only do You in Your grace plan allow for the possibilities for which we pray, but in You all things are possible.

Sure that You will respond to us and certain that You will fulfill the hopes we place before You, we offer our heartfelt prayers for the welfare of our country, for civility and respect among colleagues, for strength to serve both justly and mercifully, and the faith to heed Your guidance in all these things.

Lord, we believe. Help our unbelief. Even as we offer these prayers, we can't help but hold on to some doubt that what we ask for will be given, that what we seek we will find, given how hopeless things seem these days.

Remind us again that faith in You emerges from our doubt. In You we find strength in weakness. In You all we desire can be found.

So we yield ourselves to You as we offer our prayers in the power available to us in Your most holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. SALINAS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SALINAS 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.

CELEBRATING HENRY HALDEMAN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to wish Henry Haldeman a happy 100th birthday and to thank him for his service to our country during World War II.

After joining the Army, Sergeant Haldeman landed at Anzio Beach in Italy, becoming one of the first Americans to begin liberating the oppressed people of Europe.

From Anzio to Germany, Henry Haldeman and the men of the 14th Army Infantry fought bravely and sacrificed much as they helped to turn around the horrors of World War II.

Receiving both a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star, Henry Haldeman rep-

resents what truly made his the Greatest Generation.

After returning home to Port Royal, Henry found joy working on his family's farm, growing corn and feeding young calves. His life has been a beacon of what it means to serve his country and his community both at home and abroad.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I wish Henry Haldeman a happy 100th birthday and continued blessings to come.

TRANSGENDER MENTAL HEALTH

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

Ms. SALINAS. Madam Speaker, I rise on Mental Health Monday in defense of the transgender community.

Last year, lawmakers introduced 315 anti-LGBTQI+ bills. During that same year, a national survey found that 45 percent of LGBTQI+ youths seriously considered suicide. That is 45 percent, Madam Speaker.

This year has far surpassed 2022's record with more than 400 hateful and harmful laws introduced so far, including H.R. 734.

Reputable athletic organizations like the International Olympic Committee and the National Collegiate Athletic Association have guidelines for the equitable participation of transgender athletes.

With this bill, House Republicans are creating a problem where there isn't one because they think the American people won't see this for what it is: a ploy to distract from their failures.

Madam Speaker, this is not a game. It is a mental health catastrophe in the making. The trans community deserves our support, not our scorn.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider healing over harm and to reconsider H.R. 734.

☐ 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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CONGRATULATING CAITLIN CLARK OF IOWA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Caitlin Clark of the Iowa Hawkeyes women's basketball team for winning the 2023 Naismith National Player of the Year award, the AP Player of the Year award, the Wooden Award National Player of the Year, and the Honda Sport Award for Basketball.

Caitlin is a native of West Des Moines, Iowa, and attended Dowling Catholic before taking her career to the next level with the University of Iowa Hawkeyes. Her exceptional play this season captivated audiences far beyond the Hawkeye State.

As a junior, Caitlin averaged 27.3 points and led the Nation with five triple-doubles, including a 41-point, 12-assist, 10-rebound effort in Iowa's NCAA tournament win over Louisville to advance to the Final Four.

The ESPN telecast of the Hawkeyes' win over Louisville averaged more viewers than any NBA telecast on ESPN this season as Clark became the first player in the NCAA tournament history to record a 40-point triple-double.

In a recent interview, she said: "I want my legacy to be the impact that I can have on young kids and the people in the State of Iowa, and I hope I brought them a lot of joy this season."

Madam Speaker, Caitlin is most certainly a joy and an inspiration to all Iowans and numerous Americans.

We can't wait to continue watching Caitlin on the court and wish her the best of luck in the future.

Go Hawks.

Madam Speaker, I wish a very happy birthday to my nephews, Matthew and Joseph Martina.

BIDEN BUDGET DESTROYS JOBS

(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. Madam Speaker, the Biden budget would destroy jobs, slash wages, and reduce economic growth, according to a new study by the Tax Foundation.

The budget will raise taxes by \$4.7 trillion and reduce economic growth. Americans are experiencing record-high levels of inflation under Biden, and his plan will cut wages by a full percent.

The newly elected Republican majority is focused on fiscal sanity and creating jobs.

Congratulations champion Matt Fitzpatrick of Sheffield, England, on victory yesterday at the RBC Heritage presented by Boeing, at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

I appreciate the success of Royal Bank of Canada President Dave McKay, Boeing National Strategy Director Lindsay Leonard, Heritage Classic Foundation Chairman Simon Fraser, and Tournament Director Steve Wilmot.

The victory was special as it has been a vacation favorite for the Fitzpatrick family from the United Kingdom for many years.

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

WATER STORAGE FOR CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, California has gotten a heck of a lot of rain and snow this year. We are very grateful for that. After several dry years, Mother Nature and God have been good to us. Billions of gallons of water have flooded California in some areas, including the newly created Tulare Lake, as in previous decades.

Our snowpack is indeed at near-record levels, but so much of this water is being lost out to the ocean. California's water infrastructure hasn't been really added to in over 40 years. Now, we have a 1.5 million acre-foot project called Sites Reservoir that has been talked about for about 40 years. Endless environmental studies and other hang-ups have kept the permitting process from being completed.

All Californians—indeed all Americans—suffer because the food crops that we are growing in our State feed 90 percent of our country in certain types of crops.

In 2014, Californians voted in favor of a bond to increase our water storage if the money gets spent on tearing down dams and taking away hydroelectric power.

If Sites Reservoir was in place this year, it would be half full in just one season with 750,000 acre-feet of water. That opportunity has been lost.

Madam Speaker, we need to get these projects done.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HOUCHN). The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:

Mr. COHEN, Tennessee
Mr. CLEAVER, Missouri
Mr. VEASEY, Texas

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 2 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission:

Mr. THOMPSON, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES GROUP OF THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly:

Mr. CONNOLLY, Virginia
Ms. SANCHEZ, California
Mr. LARSEN, Washington
Mr. BOYLE, Pennsylvania

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SELF) at 5 p.m.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY YOON SUK YEOL, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Thursday, April 27, 2023, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Yoon Suk Yeol, President of the Republic of Korea.

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 votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.