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## House of Representatives

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

### PRAYER

Pastor Craig Pridgen, True Bethel Baptist Church, Niagara Falls, New York, offered the following prayer:

How can I say thanks for the things that You have done? The voices of 1 million angels could not express our gratitude. All that we are and ever would hope to be, we owe it all to Thee. To God be the glory for the things You have done.

It is in the stillness of a room steeped in tradition that we pause to invite Your presence. I pray Your continued guidance for those whom You have perfectly placed in these hallowed seats. As the psalmist declared, how wonderful and pleasant it is when brethren dwell together in unity. Despite the differences of political affiliation, demographic, gender, or ethnicity, we stand together in this House of the people in unity. One Nation under God.

In the name of the one who is able to do exceeding, abundantly, above all we can ask or think.

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 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ALFORD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### WELCOMING PASTOR CRAIG PRIDGEN

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize today's guest chaplain, my friend, Pastor Craig Pridgen.

Pastor Pridgen serves as the senior servant at True Bethel Baptist Church in Niagara Falls.

Through his ministry and community service, he is an energetic and effective advocate for those who have none, who have been doubted, underappreciated, and forgotten.

Buffalo born and raised, Pastor Pridgen has led efforts to promote opportunity through a church-led workforce program, as well as understanding and equality through his position on the board of the National Federation of Just Communities.

He has also supported community-building and wellness initiatives as president of the Niagara Falls Ministerial Council and a senior adviser for Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in Buffalo.

We are grateful to have Pastor Craig Pridgen in the House Chamber for today's opening prayer, and so very fortunate to have him leading by example in all of western New York.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATURNER). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DONNY FLEMING

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a beloved community member, a man of faith, a brave veteran, and valued friend, Donny Fleming.

Characterized by his grace and gratitude, Donny was a lifelong resident of St. Marys, Pennsylvania. Earlier this month, Donny peacefully passed away, surrounded by family. He was a staple of his community and dedicated to uplifting those around him, whether it be family, friends, or those in need, Donny ingrained himself in his community as a civil servant and business leader.

He was a powerful force among local organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club, United Way, the Cleveland Clinic, and Christ the King Manor. Donny exemplified what it means to devote oneself not only to his community but to his country. He was a recipient of both the Purple Heart and the Silver Star medals. I thank him for his committed service and sacrifice, not only to his community but to our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my condolences to Donny's wife, Elaine, and family, and hope that his profound impact instills the importance of kindness and generosity for us all.

### WOMEN'S HEALTH

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, families across the country, including my own, celebrated Mother's Day. Many of us honor the extraordinary women in our

□ 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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lives with a call, brunch, or flowers. These are all lovely gestures.

If you ask a mom what she wants for Mother's Day, there is a good chance she will say peace of mind. A call doesn't give a mother time off from work to recover from childbirth and bond with her newborn. Brunch won't provide mental or physical healthcare. Flowers won't babysit or teach our children the alphabet.

This Chamber must do more for moms. What they need are:

Paid family leave to close the gender wage gap;

Access to basic women's healthcare;

Closing the coverage gap and eradicating bias from medicine to save the lives of women, especially Black women;

Quality, affordable childcare;

Universal pre-K to give our generation a strong educational foundation; and

Peace of mind that their child will not be blown away by gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, mothers are telling us what they need. I hope by next Mother's Day we listen.

#### NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Nation's law enforcement officers.

They serve as the human shield between peace and chaos, preserving our way of life and upholding the rule of law.

Our police officers are the first people we call when we are in danger. When our safety is threatened, they respond without hesitation. Their unwavering commitment to public service and willingness to confront the unknown is a testament to their strength and humanity.

We also must remember that our police officers are not just uniformed personnel. They are our neighbors, our friends, our family. They share our joys, our sorrows, our dreams, and our challenges. They deserve not only our gratitude but also our unwavering support.

As we observe National Police Week, let's honor those dressed in blue who put their lives on the line each and every day for us.

When we are standing united and when we support those who protect us, we maintain peace and we maintain safety. We strengthen the bond that makes us one Nation, indivisible.

#### PASS A CLEAN DEBT CEILING BILL

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, meet Janet, a constituent of mine from the Uptown neighborhood in Chicago.

She is 64 years old and is on Social Security disability. She suffers from chronic mental illness that prevents her from working. Even though she would prefer to work, she really is unable to do so.

Janet will be devastated by the Republicans holding our economy hostage. She has \$1,200 per month, and that is her total income, Social Security. She has no other income.

If we do not pass a clean debt ceiling bill, Janet will not be able to pay for her medication. She will not be able to get food. She will not be able to pay her rent. There are millions of Janets around this country. We say: Don't hold Janet hostage.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF NOAH JACOB SHAHNAVAZ

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

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Noah Jacob Shahnavaz, an Indiana police officer who was killed in the line of duty last year. Noah would have turned 25 today.

Noah was born in Indianapolis to Matt and Laurie Shahnavaz. After graduating from Fishers High School, he enlisted in the Army where he served as a sergeant and was awarded the distinguished Air Assault Badge. He was deployed to the Middle East and two border missions.

Following his honorable discharge, Noah answered the call to service once again and joined the Elwood Police Department in August of 2021.

On behalf of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District and our Nation, I share my deepest appreciation and gratitude for Noah's service to our Republic.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence to remember Noah and the heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. You will not be forgotten.

#### MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

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

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, May is Mental Health Month. When we think about health in general, we normally think of physical bodies. When someone is hurt, we can often tell. I did mixed martial arts and I know a little thing or two about physical hurt.

The thing is, we can't always tell when someone in our lives is struggling internally. Mental and emotional health is health, especially after the difficult and isolating years of the pandemic, and it is absolutely critical that we treat it as such.

This month and every month, I encourage folks to check in on your families, neighbors, and friends. I know I am going to do the same. If you or

someone you know needs help, we have some amazing local organizations in Kansas' Third District, like Zero Reasons Why or the Johnson County Mental Health Center, who are ready to assist you however they can, or you can call 988 to speak with a trained counselor.

Finally, to our youth who may be struggling right now—I see you. Even on the toughest days, please know that you are not alone. Please don't be afraid to ask for help.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to keep working to improve access to mental health so folks in Kansas and around the country can have the resources they need to take better care of themselves and their loved ones.

#### HONORING THE BRAVE POLICE OFFICERS WHO PROTECT US

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Police Week and I want to recognize all the brave officers, the men and women who risk their lives and their safety every day to protect and serve our communities.

Average citizens try very hard to stay away from certain types of people: murderers, rapists, drug dealers, gang members, domestic abusers, many I call dirtbags. These are the people our police officers deal with every day in the line of duty. They run toward danger when the rest of us run away.

They take criminals off our streets. They bring justice to our country. They protect us no matter what. They even protected the wave of antipolice protests that have been happening across our Nation. Imagine that. That takes true integrity and dedication to their work.

We all benefit from their service, and we need to back them up however we can.

I am incredibly grateful for our law enforcement, especially the local sheriffs' offices and police departments and my good friends at the State troopers' office in Tennessee's Second District who work so hard to keep us safe from these bad people.

#### WE MUST MAINTAIN STRONG TIES WITH THE NATION OF ISRAEL

(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, our ally in the Middle East, Israel, has suffered from even more rocket attacks from Hamas terrorists.

Hamas, as usual, is launching rockets from civilian population centers and using those civilians as human shields.

We hear a lot of talk these days about 15-minute cities. Israelis live 15-seconds from a shelter. That is how they have to live their life if they are