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## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at 12 noon.

## House of Representatives

MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Alabama).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
May 22, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BARRY MOORE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the ambulances, the emergency medical technicians, and the paramedics that we all rely on each and every day have come a long way since Ernest Hemingway and the first casualty transports of World War I.

From highway crashes to heart attacks and falls, we call on our EMTs to be the first medical care a patient receives, regardless of their circumstance.

During National Emergency Medical Services Week, we recognize and thank the men and women willing to respond at a moment's notice. More and more, we rely on these first responders to address significant instances, instances like a diabetic coma, a fractured limb, or a patient who has overdosed.

We in Congress owe it to our EMTs and the communities that they serve to ensure that they have the tools and resources necessary to arrive quickly and to treat these patients.

So often, we forget the toll that these jobs take on first responders and their families. This week, let's remain grateful for the care and the professionalism of our frontline healthcare workers and pledge to support the EMTs and paramedics—volunteers and paid alike—who support our communities and, ultimately, care for our families.

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LONG AND DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF BRUNSWICK COUNTY SHERIFF JOHN INGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and service of Brunswick County Sheriff John Ingram, who recently retired from his long and distinguished tenure in law enforcement.

A proud native of Brunswick County, Sheriff Ingram dedicated his life to his community by joining the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department in 1991. Starting as a patrol deputy, he quickly rose through the ranks and served in many different capacities, including in the warrant and detective divisions, and then became lieutenant in the narcotics division and commander of the department's SWAT team.

Mr. Ingram later joined the Columbus County Sheriff's Office, where he was named chief deputy before returning to Brunswick County in the same role. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed Brunswick County Sheriff, earning reelection to the post in each and every election since.

During his tenure leading the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office, he expanded the department to accommodate the fastest growing county in the State. He increased recruitment efforts and brought in additional 911 telecommunicators and detention officers to increase safety.

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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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He also offered a variety of community programs to further the sheriff's office mission to enhance public safety and education and promote community-based relationships between law enforcement and the public, including his support for establishing drug courts where those battling addiction could be better treated and not only treated but provided with a path to recovery.

To facilitate these missions, he created the Sheriff's Citizens' Academy along with the Sheriff's Volunteer Program. He also launched the Anchor Initiative Program in 2018 to help those suffering from addiction start their recovery, providing hope for those suffering from their addictions and breaking the typical continual cycle of continued drug use and crime.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Ingram has been recognized for his leadership on all these fronts. He was elected to the board of directors for the National Sheriffs' Association and served as president of the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association from 2019 to 2020.

Most recently, he was awarded the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine, a recognition considered North Carolina's highest civilian honor.

It is an honor to recognize a friend who is a no-nonsense individual with such a sense of duty, integrity, and distinguished service to the people of Brunswick County.

On behalf of the citizens of North Carolina's Seventh Congressional District, I congratulate and extend my sincere gratitude to Sheriff Ingram for his extraordinary service and commitment to protecting our communities.

May God continue to bless him, his family, and the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office. I am proud to call him my friend.

#### RECOGNIZING SSAB STEEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize SSAB Steel for taking a big step toward a more sustainable future with SSAB Zero steel.

SSAB is the largest producer and supplier of steel plate in North America, and their facility in Muscatine, Iowa, in my district, is the first in the world to produce steel with zero emissions from the source without any credits or offsets.

SSAB Zero steel is made using recycled steel—almost all steel in America is almost 98 percent recycled—and it is produced with biogas and renewable electricity. The rollout of zero-emission steel will continue through 2023 with the goal of having a wide range of products available to meet the increasing demand for environmentally friendly alternatives.

SSAB Zero is an important step in their efforts to lead the steel industry

to a decarbonized future by creating an emission-free value chain for their customers.

We are proud to have such an innovative company pursuing climate-neutral solutions in Iowa and wish them the very best as they continue to lead the industry to a cleaner, healthier future.

PBMS ABUSING PATIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the HELP Copays Act.

Too many patients are seeing large copays at the pharmacy counter because of pharmacy benefit manager, or PBM, accumulator programs. PBMs are the middlemen in the distribution chain between drug manufacturers and pharmacies and were originally designed to help negotiate with manufacturers to lower costs for patients.

Unfortunately, we are seeing patient assistance programs being abused by PBMs. Patients often receive drug coupons from manufacturers for high-cost medicines to reduce their out-of-pocket spending. However, PBMs, who are also the insurer in many cases, do not allow the coupon to apply toward the patient's deductible.

This is not the proper role of insurance. Health benefits should be serving the patients, not their shareholders at the expense of patients.

The HELP Copays Act would put an end to these abusive practices and improve patient access and affordability by requiring insurance plans to apply patient assistance toward their copay.

There simply can't be a discussion on lowering healthcare costs for patients without addressing the role of middlemen. Banning the use of copay accumulators is a readymade policy to do just that.

#### POLYCRISIS HURTS SENIORS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Chamber for 5 minutes and to talk about what political scientists are calling a polycrisis.

A polycrisis is multiple events that have happened globally that have an enormous impact not only on the world but here. I am going to focus on just three of them right now: the pandemic that we are currently going through, Mr. Speaker, which has been extraordinary, as well as the supply chain issues that have happened; a global pandemic creating global supply chain issues, which led to ensuing global inflation; and in the midst of that, the Ukraine war, which has become a global war, again, impacting supply chain and other issues.

Who in the United States of America has this impacted the most? In our country, this pandemic has impacted the elderly. Of the 1.2 million people who have passed away, over 850,000 were over the age of 65. With regard to

inflation, the group that is hurt most by inflation are people on fixed incomes, and that would be close to 70 million Social Security recipients here in this Nation.

We have a crisis in this country: a pension crisis and a crisis that Congress has neglected for more than 52 years.

1971 was the last time that Congress did anything to enhance Social Security benefits. A gallon of milk was 72 cents at that time. A lot has changed since 1971, but what hasn't changed is Congress' recalcitrance to address the needs of our seniors.

Social Security is the number one antipoverty program for seniors and the number one antipoverty program for children, yet there are 5 million Americans currently who get below-poverty-level checks from the Federal Government after having paid all of their lives into the system.

The only reason that is so is because Congress hasn't acted. It is long overdue for Congress to act. We have legislation that we will be introducing in the Ways and Means Committee that will enhance Social Security with across-the-board increases for everyone to lift people out of poverty and provide every single district with economic recovery.

Why? It is because, on average, there are 145,000 people per congressional district who are on Social Security, and that money is spent right back in that congressional district. People are not buying back stock options with their Social Security checks. They are spending it at the grocery store. They are spending it on rent. They are spending it on prescription drugs. That is what is needed.

It is long overdue for Congress to act. It is not simply a question of protecting or saving Social Security. It is doing something to end this crisis in the midst of the worst pandemic, in the midst of inflation, and in the midst of a supply chain issue to make sure that our elderly and our people are being protected.

#### PREPARING FOR TYPHOON MAWAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday afternoon, Guam, a territory of the United States, my district, and my home, will be moving to Condition of Readiness 1 as Typhoon Mawar makes its way to the Marianas region.

On its current track, the system is expected to bring tropical-storm-force winds as early as Tuesday afternoon, with the possibility of typhoon-force winds of 81 to 110 miles per hour by Wednesday morning, along with gusts projected to reach 100 to 120 miles per hour. This, along with heavy rainfall, certainly places Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands in a serious predicament, with a major natural disaster at our doorstep.