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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GIMENEZ).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 23, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CARLOS A. GIMENEZ 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 11:50 a.m.

HONORING NOAH SHAHNAVAZ AND SEARA BURTON DURING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two fallen Hoosier police officers who were killed in the line of duty while serving our community last year.

Noah Shahnavaz of Elwood and Seara Burton of Richmond were honored for National Police Week this year, and their names were added to the National

Law Enforcement Officers Memorial right here in Washington, D.C.

Noah was a 5-year Army veteran and had been with the police department for 11 months. Seara was a 4-year member of the Wayne County Police Department and was the first female canine officer in the department's history.

We will never forget Noah and Seara's service and sacrifice to our Indiana community and our entire Nation.

May our brave fallen police officers rest in peace.

CONGRATULATING MS. MUNJULURI

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Munjuluri, a junior at Columbus North High School, on winning the State of Indiana Poetry Out Loud Competition and then going on to become the 2023 Poetry Out Loud National Champion.

She has truly made Indiana's Sixth District proud, and she has a bright future ahead.

I congratulate Ms. Munjuluri, and I wish her the best of luck in all her future professional and personal endeavors.

HONORING OFFICER DUSTIN MOODY

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I would like to honor Officer Dustin Moody on the House floor.

Officer Moody was seriously injured in the line of duty, paralyzing him from the waist down just last year.

Before his injury, he had been serving in law enforcement for 10 years and had been with the Trafalgar Police Department since December 2020.

Throughout his career as a police officer, Officer Moody was dedicated to protecting our communities in Johnson County, Indiana.

God bless Officer Moody, and I thank all our brave Hoosier police officers for their service.

RECOGNIZING THE 317 RYDERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 317 Ryders Motorcycle

Club, which is a group of motorcyclists in Shelby County, Indiana, for the philanthropic work that they do.

Since they were founded in 2002, the 317 Ryders Motorcycle Club's mission has been to provide fun motorcycle rides for its members while at the same time giving back to the Hoosier community.

I thank the 317 Ryders Motorcycle Club for all the funding and volunteering work that they do for Indiana's Sixth District, and I look forward to seeing what more the 317 group does.

ENERGY CONCERNS

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise concerns with the EPA's newest attempt to create the Clean Power Plan 2.0.

By setting unattainable emission targets and relying on untested technologies, this rule will raise utility bills and threaten the reliability of our electric grid. Once again, EPA is driving out affordable baseload power plants to fulfill their rush to their green agenda.

We are already seeing a reliability crisis play out across the country, and EPA is doubling down on their attempts to regulate fossil fuels out of existence.

It is past time for this administration to face reality and put our Nation on a sustainable path forward to keep the lights on.

GREEN AGENDA WILL RAISE COSTS

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness of the direction of this administration's American energy strategy.

Just last week, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation again raised alarms about potential blackouts this summer.

The administration is making a bad situation worse by continuing to roll out unattainable and unworkable emission standards. At the same time, agencies are forcing electrification of everything from cars to stoves.

□ 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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Mr. Speaker, this rush to a green agenda will raise the costs to turn the lights on, cook your meals, or heat your homes. Hoosiers and all Americans will be the ones to foot the bill for an incoherent energy strategy.

TAKE ACTION ON GUN VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Mrs. TRAHAN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind Members of this Chamber what happened just 2 weeks ago in Allen, Texas.

Eight people were senselessly murdered by an extremist armed with an assault rifle—a 3-year-old boy and his mom and dad, who left behind a 6-year-old orphan who survived the mass shooting.

Two young sisters, one in the fourth grade and the other in the second grade, who were described as rays of sunshine, and three young adults each had their entire life ahead of them. All of them were simply minding their own business at the outlets on a Saturday, not knowing it would be their last day.

The news cycle may have changed—something many in this Chamber were waiting for—but each of these victims leaves behind loved ones who are still mourning an unimaginable loss.

Each of these victims, like every victim of a mass shooting before them, deserved better. They deserved real action that could have prevented a person deemed unfit to serve in the United States Army from accessing an assault weapon that he used to kill them.

They deserve better than their Member of Congress going on national television that same day and saying that thoughts and prayers are enough to stop gun violence and that if you disagree, then you don't believe in an Almighty God.

They certainly deserve better than platitudes from a Governor more concerned about his grade on the NRA scorecard than the number of victims of mass shootings in his State.

Mr. Speaker, I stood here at this podium 3 weeks ago after three 9-year-old children and two teachers were murdered in their classrooms in Nashville. I pleaded with the Republican majority to bring legislation to the floor to prevent another mass shooting.

I listed bills we could have considered: the assault weapons ban to get weapons of war, the gun of choice for mass shooters, off our streets; the Bipartisan Background Checks Act to make sure guns aren't falling into the hands of individuals who shouldn't have them; and the Enhanced Background Checks Act to ensure that a full background check is actually completed before the firearm sale is processed.

Yet, here we are, 17 days since Allen, Texas, 57 days since The Covenant School, and 1 day before the first anniversary of the massacre in Uvalde, and

what are we being forced to vote on this week? A piece of legislation that will make it harder to stop air pollution. Are they serious? This is a colossal disconnect.

There is a witness from a shooting just 2 weeks ago who talked about how he went to help a little girl whom he thought was hiding, and when he went to check on her, she didn't have a face after being shot with an AR-15-style assault weapon.

We can't even get a vote on whether these guns should be available. It is no wonder people think Congress is out of touch.

The United States is the only developed nation in the world where this kind of thing keeps happening again and again. We are the only country where mass shootings are so common that we have PSAs so people know what to do and where my girls' school day is interrupted on a regular basis to practice an active shooter drill.

It is shameful, infuriating, and embarrassing. This Chamber should be embarrassed that another mass shooting has disappeared from the news without a shred of action.

FARM BILL IMPACT NO. 20: NBAF RIBBON CUTTING

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to deliver the 20th installment of my farm bill impact series and celebrate this week's ribbon cutting at USDA's National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility in Manhattan, Kansas, in the heart of my district.

It has been 8 years since the facility's groundbreaking in 2015, and now this state-of-the-art, 700,000-square-foot research center is a national asset that will help protect animal agriculture against the threat and potential impact of serious animal diseases.

NBAF will be home to the only maximum biocontainment space in the country where USDA will conduct comprehensive research, develop animal vaccines and antivirals, and explore enhanced diagnostic and training capabilities. This facility isn't just about animal health. It is about public health, as well.

NBAF will replace the 60-year-old Plum Island Animal Disease Center in New York, create 400 new jobs for Kansans, generate more than \$100 million in total economic benefit for our State, and make Kansas the home of internationally recognized animal disease experts.

By bringing healthy animals into the facility, world-renowned research will happen here. I am proud to have this facility in my district and right down the street from K-State's College of Veterinary Medicine and the Biosecurity Research Institute, creating a scientific hub that will lead the world in agriculture research and health.

Last month, I chaired my first hearing of the House Agriculture Sub-

committee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry on animal health with USDA Under Secretary Moffitt. Animal health is at the forefront of livestock producers' minds, and so it is at the forefront of my mind on their behalf.

This year's farm bill is an opportunity to lead in the areas of innovation and research. We must get animal health right for our food security, economic security, and national security.

The 2018 farm bill contained special authorization for biosecurity planning and response, which helped make NBAF possible. NBAF is a concrete example of the impact that we can have when we reauthorize the farm bill in careful and creative ways.

Last year, I hosted House Agriculture Committee Chairman G.T. THOMPSON on an ag tour of Kansas, where I was proud to show him NBAF. Last month, I hosted House Agriculture Committee staff and congressional staff from agriculture districts around the country for a tour of NBAF. The technology, scale, and international significance of the facility are truly second to none.

Once fully operational, NBAF won't just support and protect agriculture. It will protect our country and the world.

I will be back on the floor soon to deliver another installment of my farm bill impact series and highlight more programs and titles within the farm bill that I believe Congress must understand and support to ensure that agriculture thrives right here in America.

OPPOSING A NATIONAL ABORTION HOTLINE

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to use my voice in defense of the voiceless.

Abortion has desensitized our Nation and resulted in the deaths of nearly 64 million unborn American citizens, which is basically the entire population of the Midwest.

Last year, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, rectifying a wrong that has plagued our country for decades. While that is a huge triumph for the right to life, there is still a lot of work to be done.

Last month, the Biden administration announced that it plans to use \$1.5 billion of taxpayer money to establish a national abortion hotline to counsel individuals on how to obtain an abortion and certain other family planning services.

According to the administration, the project will operate as a supplement to the existing Title X Family Planning services grant. The grant information states that one of the hotline's purposes will be to offer information, counseling, and referral for pregnancy termination.

The Public Health Services Act of 1970 established Title X funds to help low-income and uninsured women access healthcare and family planning services. From the beginning, Title X funds were never intended to support abortion services, and the underlying statute explicitly prohibits it.

In October 2021, however, the Biden administration finalized a rule that