

order is based on the respect for the principles of the U.N. charter, peaceful resolution of disputes, and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

As I have said directly and publicly, this is not an era of war, but it is one of dialogue and diplomacy, and we all must do what we can to stop the bloodshed and human suffering.

Mr. Speaker, the dark clouds of coercion and confrontation are casting their shadow in the Indo-Pacific. The stability of the region has become one of the central concerns of our partnership.

We share a vision of a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific connected by secure seas, defined by international law, free from domination, and anchored in ASEAN centrality; a region where all nations, small and large, are free and fearless in their choices, where progress is not suffocated by an impossible burden of debt, where connectivity is not leveraged for strategic purposes, where all nations are lifted by the high tide of shared prosperity.

Our vision does not seek to contain or exclude but to build a cooperative region of peace and prosperity. We work through regional institutions and with our partners from within the region and beyond. Of this, Quad has emerged as a major force of good for the region.

Mr. Speaker, more than two decades after 9/11 and more than a decade after 26/11 in Mumbai, radicalism and terrorism still remain a pressing danger for the whole world. These ideologies keep taking new identities and forms, but their intentions are the same.

Terrorism is an enemy of humanity, and there can be no ifs and buts in dealing with it. We must overcome all such forces sponsoring and exporting terror.

Mr. Speaker, COVID-19's biggest impact was the human loss and suffering it caused. I wish to remember Congressman Ron Wright and the staff members who lost their lives to COVID.

As we emerge out of the pandemic, we must give shape to a new world order. Consideration, care, and concern are the need of the hour.

Giving a voice to the Global South is the way forward. That is why I firmly believe that the African Union be given full membership of G20.

We must revive multilateralism and reform multilateral institutions with better resources and representation.

That applies to all our global institutions of governance, especially the United Nations.

When the world has changed, our institutions, too, must change or risk getting replaced by a world of rivalries without rules.

In working for a new world order based on international law, our two countries will be at the forefront as partners.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished Members, today, we stand at a new dawn in

our relationship that will not only shape the destiny of our two nations but also that of the world.

As the young American poet Amanda Gorman has expressed:

When day comes, we step out of the shade,
afire and unafraid.
The new dawn blooms as we free it.
For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it.

Our trusted partnership is like the Sun in this new dawn that will spread light all around.

I am reminded of a poem that I once wrote: [Speaking in Hindi]

If I were to say it in English, it would be:

Raising its head in the skies,
Piercing through the dense clouds,
With the promise of light,
The Sun has just risen.
Armed with a deep resolve,
Overcoming all the odds,
To dispel the forces of darkness,
The Sun has just risen.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished Members, we come from different circumstances and history, but we are united by a common vision and by a common destiny.

When our partnership progresses, economic resilience increases, innovation grows, science flourishes, knowledge advances, humanity benefits, our seas and skies are safer, democracy will shine brighter, and the world will be a better place.

That is the mission of our partnership. That is our calling for this century.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished Members, even by the high standards of our partnership, this visit is one of a great, positive transformation. Together, we shall demonstrate that democracies matter and democracies deliver.

I count on your continued support to the India-U.S. partnership.

When I was here in 2016, I had said that "our relationship is primed for a momentous future." That future is today.

Thank you once again, Mr. Speaker, Madam Vice President, and the distinguished Members, for this honor.

God bless America.

Jai Hind.

Long live India-U.S. friendship.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 5 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m., His Excellency Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet;

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

JOINT MEETING DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The purpose of the joint meeting having been completed, the Chair declares the joint meeting of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.), the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

The SPEAKER. The House will continue in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1800

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DE LA CRUZ) at 6 p.m.

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS HAD DURING RECESS

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings had during the recess be printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Oversight and Accountability:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 22, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER MCCARTHY: I hereby resign from the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

Sincerely,

BECCA BALINT,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Madam Speaker, 17-year-old Richianna Deguzman was supposed to start her first job this week. Instead, she is on life support fighting for her life because of a senseless and tragic act of gun violence.

While Hawaii has some of the strongest gun safety laws, Richianna's family and friends know it is not enough. Right now they are praying for a miracle and pleading for an end to gun violence.

The sad reality is that there are thousands of Richiannas every day across this country—kids who deserve better than a Congress more beholden to the gun lobby than to protecting them.

For too long, Congress has ignored the majority of Americans who want

the killing to stop. We cannot sit idly by as Americans continue to live in fear.

Last week, I joined my colleagues in signing discharge petitions to demand House votes on several gun safety measures.

At the same time, House Republicans pushed through a measure to weaken regulations on stabilizing braces for firearms, an accessory used in several mass shootings across our country over the last decade.

Enough is enough. We demand an end to gun violence and a safer future for our “keiki,” “kids.”

RECOGNIZING THE SMALLEST CITY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the smallest city in the United States of America: the city of Parker in Armstrong County. Nestled in the beautiful Allegheny River Valley, Parker City is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

What started as a village with nearly 1,000 people grew almost overnight to become a booming oil metropolis with a population of more than 20,000 in the late 1800s.

For the next 10 years, Parker became a place of great activity with more than 1,000 oil wells, saloons, stores, hotels, and machine shops.

While the oil boom was short-lived, the spirit of Parker was strong. By the 1890s, the population of Parker was back to nearly 1,000.

Madam Speaker, today Parker is a great retreat for those wanting to enjoy the quiet river setting as a peaceful escape from urban life. The population stands at about 900 people, making it the smallest city in the USA.

Parker is celebrating 150 years as a city on July 15. They will have fireworks, parades, local vendors, and a river float.

Madam Speaker, if you ever find yourself in the foothills of the Allegheny Mountains along the banks of the Allegheny River, I encourage you to visit Parker.

RECOGNIZING HENRY BERG-BROUSSEAU

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MCGARVEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGARVEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their re-

marks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGARVEY. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to tell everybody about one of my former interns in the Kentucky State Senate, Henry Berg-Brousseau.

Henry was truly one of my favorite interns. He was one of those guys who was bright, curious, and had a smile that could light up the room.

In Kentucky, in the State senate, the Kentucky Capitol Annex is behind the capitol and we would make that walk across to the State capitol, just as we make the walk across here in Washington, D.C., from the House office buildings.

Henry was incessant, constantly peppering me with questions, asking me things: What are the policies we can do? What are the fights we can have? How do we make progress? How do we get things done in the seat of government?

Henry was brilliant. He was kind, ambitious, and really funny. Most importantly, Henry was a fighter. He had to be. Despite having two loving parents and a wonderful family, Henry's life wasn't easy. He was severely bullied as a kid and he battled with the trauma and the depression that went with it.

It wasn't coming from the kids either. Adults from all walks of life bullied and berated him incessantly until the end. Unfortunately, that end came way too soon.

Last December, on December 16, Henry died by suicide. He dedicated his life—his young life—to helping people like him. His work and legacy will continue to benefit youth all across this country. I can't help but think how much he would have given to this world if he had just been allowed the chance to exist and exist in peace.

Henry's mom, Karen, recently joined the President and First Lady on the South Lawn of the White House to celebrate Pride Month. That is not where she wanted to be. You never stop being a parent. She wants to be with her son.

Henry's story is truly tragic but, unfortunately, it is not unique. We can all agree that what I just described is a tragedy. It is a tragedy to lose a young person, a tragedy to lose somebody with so much potential, a tragedy for any parent to have to bury their baby.

Yet for some, when I tell you that Henry was trans, that tragedy goes away. His humanity is erased. Henry is erased. I can't accept that.

We can't bring Henry back, but we can continue his fight to end the suffering that he and way, way, way too many others have endured by people who refuse to acknowledge the humanity of trans people and try to criminalize their very existence.

More than 80 percent of transgender people have struggled with suicidal ide-

ation, and nearly half have attempted suicide. The Trevor Project estimates that one LGBTQ+ child attempts suicide every 45 seconds in the United States. Every 45 seconds a child tries to kill themselves—a child.

What has our response to this tragedy been?

In the first 6 months of Congress, House Republicans have passed legislation that actually makes it worse, that further harms LGBTQ+ kids, from the so-called Parents Bill of Rights, which unfairly targets our most vulnerable youth, to the national bans that deny decisionmaking abilities of doctors, coaches, and parents.

We have tried to complicate these issues. I want to make it really clear and really simple: Stop being mean to kids. Our children are not pieces in a political game. These anti-LGBTQ+ bills have real-life consequences.

Instead of legislating with the kindness and compassion that our kids need, House Republicans' legislative priorities have been overreaching, callous, and cruel.

We are not alone in that blame. Unfortunately, Congress isn't the only institution passing these heinous, heart-breaking, and harmful laws. State legislators across the country are following suit and are trying to legislate LGBTQ youth out of existence.

In my home State of Kentucky, Republicans in the general assembly made things worse and overrode the Governor's veto of one of the most oppressive trans laws in the Nation at the eleventh hour.

Senate Bill 150 tramples the rights of children and parents with exclusionary bathroom policies. It overrules the judgment of teachers by barring the discussion of gender identity or sexual orientation, and it barricades doctors from their patients by banning gender-affirming care, which is often life-saving care. It is cruel and it is not without consequence. It is hurting people across the Commonwealth of Kentucky and across our country right now.

Madam Speaker, I find it especially ironic that these overreaching policies come from the party of small government.

Last week, we kicked off the beginning of Pride Month. The impetus for pride goes back to Stonewall when the LGBTQ+ community transformed the fight for equality in the United States.

Pride Month is meant to be a joyous celebration of free expression, equality, inclusion, and resiliency. In just the time that I have been in public office, we have made huge strides, both big and small, at every level.

We have cemented marriage rights for everyone. In Kentucky, 24 cities have a fairness ordinance. Nationwide, 21 States have restricted conversion therapy. Also, 38 States allow trans people to update their name and gender identity on their drivers license, and 27 States allow the same for birth certificates.