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No. 6

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 p.m., and was called to order by the Clerk.

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

Dear God, it seems this evening we may be at last standing at the threshold of a new Congress.

I am not done yet.

Should we, with Your blessing, find our way through the doorway this night, cause us to consider carefully what we have learned on the way.

Turning to You each day, we asked for Your help in our deliberations, and You answered us. But Your answer was to allow us to suffer the anxiety, uncertainty, and aggravation that follows when we choose to allow healthy debate to devolve into contentious and unproductive argument.

And yet, in Your mercy, You transformed this foray into discord into an opportunity to learn to find common ground with unlikely partners. Would that this be a habit we continue.

Remind us that while the spirit of dispute can be traced to our government's earliest days, we have served this country best when we sought to reconcile our differences with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. May we be more willing to wield these fruits of Your spirit in our future discourse with one another.

We pray Your continued mercy on us. May Your anger with us last but a moment and Your favor a lifetime. And for all that we endure this night, allow joy to come in the morning.

In the hope found in Your name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The CLERK. The Representatives-elect will please remain standing and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The CLERK 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.

The CLERK. The question recurs upon the election of a Speaker. The tellers will please come forward and take their seats.

The Clerk recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McHENRY).

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Clerk, I am honored to rise tonight to nominate my good friend, the gentleman from California, KEVIN MCCARTHY, to serve as Speaker of this House.

Madam Clerk, it has been a long week, and a lot of attention has been placed upon us here in the House, but then again, I state that to the most famous woman in Washington this week. It was a better joke as written, actually, than delivered.

I want to start by thanking the men and women who make this House run. From the janitorial staff to the parliamentarians, to the doorkeepers, to the Sergeant at Arms, to the Capitol Police officers, to the men and women that make this institution run, we thank you.

On this day and as a source of charity, we would even thank the Capitol press corps for sitting on floors. That, too, was actually funnier on paper than how it delivered. I don't know why you asked me to do this, KEVIN.

Look, the President has called this process an embarrassment. Talking heads have labeled this chaos and a mess, and some would call it shamolic, even. But it is called democracy, and this is a hallmark of a free society where every voice and every vote counts.

We know it is messy, but open and transparent debate is what sets us apart from authoritarian regimes.

In order to outcompete our adversaries, we must adhere to the prin-

ciples that make our Nation, this Nation, our constitutional Republic, great. That starts with a free and open exchange of ideas, and that is exactly what we have done this week.

To some, it may have felt like Congress was on hold, but the alternative, a government that assembles with no input from the Representatives elected by the people, is a far worse alternative than these constitutional principles we are adhering to in this complicated process of setting up the House.

Over these last few days, KEVIN MCCARTHY has allowed this process to work among House Republicans, and he has empowered Members to come together to find consensus on behalf of conservative policy and a greater involvement of all voices throughout our Conference.

□ 2210

We have all played a part, whether you are the dean or a Member who has just been waiting for 4 days and voting loyally. It is KEVIN's leadership style, a leadership style that has been lacking in this institution for too long.

It is the same style KEVIN employed with each of us as we developed our policy proposal, a Commitment to America, a plan that works to secure our border and stop the flow of fentanyl into our communities; to give Chairman COMER and Chairman JORDAN the tools they need to hold the Biden administration accountable for their failures; to take China on and end the President's COVID emergency powers that have been abused far too many times; to finally reopen the people's House, empower our standing committees, and get people back to regular order here on the House floor; and countless other conservative solutions that are very powerful and good for constituents in Bakersfield, California, or Lincolnton, North Carolina.

Madam Clerk, I am one of the few Members left on the Republican side

□ 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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who has had the pleasure of serving with KEVIN for the entirety of his tenure in the House.

In those years, I have worked closely with KEVIN in a variety of different capacities, and he is a good friend. But serving with him in these capacities has meant that I have heard every one of his stories. I have heard the story of Kevin O's Deli way too many times. I don't know if you have heard, but he won the lottery as well. I could recount those stories chapter and verse. He is a dear friend. But all of you have heard these stories, too.

Also, I have been able to watch him from a front-row seat as he has grown as a leader and especially this week how he has grown as a leader.

He knows more about Members than they know about themselves. If your spouse is sick, he may send flowers or fruit before I did, actually, on that story. But he cares so much about Members, not for politics, but because he cares about people.

He is unflinchingly optimistic. The glass is always half full. That is a hell of a trait, especially this week. He is relentless. The man does not quit.

It was KEVIN that led Republicans back to the majority in this House, the only Republican institution in Washington this day. KEVIN has led us through these challenges the last few days, and KEVIN is the right person to lead us over the coming 2 years.

That is why, at the direction of the Republican Conference, I advance the name of KEVIN MCCARTHY as the next Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

The CLERK. The Clerk recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR).

Mr. AGUILAR. Madam Clerk, I rise to nominate HAKEEM JEFFRIES for Speaker of the House.

Madam Clerk, House Democrats are united behind the son of a social worker and substance abuse counselor, a leader who is deeply involved in his community and a tireless advocate for the least, the lost, and the left behind. He is a voice for the people. Madam Clerk, this is the people's House.

Two years ago today, duly elected Members of this body gathered here to certify the results of a free and fair election. In doing so, we participated in a tradition that makes our democracy a marvel and the envy of the world, a peaceful transfer of power.

But this body is more than a ceremonial Chamber, Madam Clerk. This is a workplace where hundreds of men and women endure long, difficult hours before they punch out and go home to their families, where good people come to work each day and maybe steal a quiet moment to themselves to look up at the ceiling or to look at the paintings or the statue of Abraham Lincoln and to thank God for the blessings of liberty because this place is so much more than a Chamber or even a workplace. "It is," in Lincoln's words, "a sign we intend the Union shall go on."

I am not just talking about the Members either, Madam Clerk. I am talking about you and your staff, the custodial staff, the floor staff, the institutional staff, our congressional staff, the Sergeant at Arms, our beloved Chaplain, and the Capitol Police. I am talking about the people who make this House work, the people who HAKEEM JEFFRIES will never take for granted.

Two years ago, Madam Clerk, we witnessed this place under siege by a violent mob who desecrated this building and the other Chamber. But this feels a little familiar. Today, we adjourned amidst utter confusion, only this time we are returning in the dark of night not to cast a vote to bring this country together and to do our jobs, but one that will set the path toward division and default.

So if we are forced to be here this evening because of the chaos and crisis on the other side, it is only fair to point out, Madam Clerk, that the same individuals who fanned the flames of January 6, who told their followers and their followers' followers that they needed to fight back, and who challenged the swearing in of Members based on a bogus claim of fake electors, may well be in charge of the people's House, if they can ever agree on who can lead them.

That is why House Democrats stand united behind HAKEEM JEFFRIES. HAKEEM is the only candidate in this race for Speaker who will defend this democracy. He is the only candidate in this race willing to call out the lie that the election was stolen, and he is the only candidate in this race who thinks that everyone involved on January 6 ought to be held accountable, regardless of the positions they hold in power.

For justice and truth, and in memory of the lives lost on January 6, I nominate HAKEEM JEFFRIES for Speaker of the House.

The CLERK. The Reading Clerk will now call the roll.

The tellers having taken their places, the House proceeded to vote for the Speaker.

The following is the result of the vote:

[Roll No. 18]

MCCARTHY—216

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon

Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz

DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Foxx
Franklin, C.
Scott

Fry
Fulcher
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Gonzales, Tony
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy

Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)

Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Santos
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

JEFFRIES—212

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragan
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar

Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs

Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross

At the direction of the Republican Conference, I advance the name of