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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Reverend John W. Matthews, Grace Lutheran Church, Apple Valley, Minnesota, offered the following prayer:

God of all peoples, we are living on land once inhabited by the Pamunkey, the Dakota Sioux, the Ojibwa, the Anishinabe, the Lenni-Lenape, the Rappahannock. May the sacred memory of them humble us and the spirit of their ancestors inspire us as together we strive for peace, justice, and reconciliation in our day.

God of all nations, You have made each of us in Your image. Empower us to see Your face in the face of every other person here, at, and beyond our borders.

Inspire us to live beyond mere tolerance and rather in deeper awe to celebrate the beauty of Your whole human family. Help us to see the beauty of skin color, the complexity of gender, the richness of ethnicity, and the blessedness of religiosity in others, those who are different than us.

God of this day and place, empower the Members of this legislative assembly, as with the Senators next door and our President and Cabinet, to employ all of their wisdom and courage together to responsibly care for our planet and protect all of Your precious people, remembering especially the less fortunate and the most vulnerable.

May Your vision for this world, O God, forever be the goal of our lives and vocations.

Finally and timely, we invoke Your healing presence to surround the families of those harmed or killed in yesterday's tragic shooting in Maine. Inspire us to nurture communities where hatred and violence find no home.

In Your blessed name we ask and pray these things.

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 gentlewoman from Nevada come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TITUS 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND JOHN W. MATTHEWS

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome our guest chaplain, Reverend John Matthews. I thank Reverend Matthews for that beautiful and hopeful prayer at the conclusion of a tumultuous time in this Chamber.

Reverend Matthews has served as a United States Army chaplain and as a police chaplain. He has been a pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Brooklyn Park, and Memorial Lutheran Church in Afton. Finally, he has pastored over me and my family at Grace Lutheran Church in Apple Valley.

John built bridges across religions during his career, as well as assisting in the drafting of "A Declaration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Amer-

ica to the Jewish Community," which is now part of the permanent display on anti-Semitism at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

It is my honor to represent Reverend Matthews and his family, and I thank him for his contributions to our community.

HONORING SPEAKER MIKE JOHNSON

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, what an extraordinary day that we have, the beginning of the speakership of MIKE JOHNSON of Louisiana.

I hope everyone will see his acceptance speech last night. They need to look at that. It was a conservative, very clear voice calling for limited government, expanded freedom, and reduced regulations to provide for a strong America. It is such a positive message. He promised to be with the people, and he is so much with the people, he is sitting in the front row. No Speaker has ever sat in the front row. This is another first.

In addition to that, Speaker MIKE JOHNSON is going to address Bidenomics, the most extraordinary inflation in 40 years, where American families have lost \$7,000. He is going to stop the war on fossil fuels so that we have fuels and energy independence. He is going to be for a strong America, and that is how we are going to deter the dictators around the world who have invaded Ukraine, who have invaded Israel, who threaten the people of Taiwan.

America will be strong.

We will have a dynamic Speaker. We look forward to his leadership, and again, America is back on track.

☐ 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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TIME TO ACT

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, later today, we are going to be taking up an extraordinary piece of legislation and voting on whether this Nation is going to be all in on a new nuclear arms race or whether we are going to modulate and think about what it is that we are funding. We are basically going to be funding the potential destruction of all that exists on this planet.

I will also address the House on an issue that occurred yesterday in Maine. Another assault weapon was used to murder at least 16 people, with perhaps another 50 being wounded.

It is time for this House to act on extending the previous ban on assault weapons. This has nothing to do with the Second Amendment. This has everything to do with war on the American people.

CONGRATULATING LAS VEGAS ACES

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

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge, congratulate, and celebrate the victory of the Las Vegas Aces, who won the 2023 Women's National Basketball Association championship.

On October 18, 2023, the Aces defeated the New York Liberty 70–69 in game four of the WNBA Finals. They won despite two of their starters being out with injuries, star guard Chelsea Gray and center Kiah Stokes.

They won and have had an amazing two-cycle victory as champions under the leadership of Hall of Fame Head Coach Becky Hammon.

Owner Mark Davis and team president Nikki Fargas have proven once again that investing in women's sports is investing in success.

In the championship game, the Finals Most Valuable Player, A'ja Wilson, led the way with 24 points and 16 rebounds; Jackie Young added 16 points; and Kelsey Plum—Plum Dawg, they call her—delivered a well-rounded performance of rebounds, assists, and points.

The Aces certainly raised the stakes when securing another championship for Vegas, firmly establishing District One as the sports capital of the world.

All of southern Nevada is very proud, and I can't wait to cheer the team on next year as they go for three in a row.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I seek recognition to give notice of my

intention to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

A resolution censuring Representative RASHIDA TLAIB for anti-Semitic activity, sympathizing with terrorist organizations, and leading an insurrection at the United States Capitol complex.

Whereas, in May 2019, RASHIDA TLAIB said that she celebrated the Holocaust and felt a “calming feeling” when thinking about the genocide of millions of Jews;

Whereas, in 2020, RASHIDA TLAIB retweeted an illustration with the caption, “From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free,” and this Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, slogan has been adopted by Hamas and calls for the elimination of Israel and death to all Jews;

Whereas, in September 2022, RASHIDA TLAIB, as a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, displayed her disdain for Israel, saying: “You cannot claim to hold progressive values yet back Israel's apartheid government”;

Whereas, instead of denouncing the horrors of Hamas slaughtering Israelis and demanding the release of all hostages held by Hamas, RASHIDA TLAIB stated on October 8, 2023: “The path to the future must include lifting the blockade, ending the occupation, and dismantling the apartheid system that creates the suffocating, dehumanizing conditions that can lead to resistance”;

Whereas, RASHIDA TLAIB exhibited her hatred for America by reposting a message on October 12, 2023, blaming America for allowing the deaths of Palestinian babies at the hands of Israel;

Whereas, RASHIDA TLAIB led an insurrection at the United States Capitol complex on October 18, 2023, which put Members of Congress, their staffs, and Capitol visitors in danger by shutting down elevators, stairwells, and points of egress, while obstructing official business in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, including a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing;

Whereas, the insurrection led by RASHIDA TLAIB was organized by Jewish Voice for Peace, which the Anti-Defamation League calls “a radical anti-Israel activist group that advocates for a complete economic, cultural, and academic boycott of the State of Israel” and that believes “Israeli policies and actions are motivated by deeply rooted Jewish racial chauvinism and religious supremacism”;

Whereas, members of the Southern Poverty Law Center, a far-left non-profit organization, were present at the insurrection at the Capitol on October 18, 2023;

Whereas, several insurrectionists at the Capitol belong to a group messaging chat called “Global Intifada,” which is the Arabic word for “rebellion” or “uprising,” and refers to a se-

ries of protests and violent riots carried out by Palestinians in Israel during the last century;

Whereas, by leading an anti-American and anti-Semitic insurrection on October 18, 2023, RASHIDA TLAIB followed Hezbollah's orders to carry out a “day of unprecedented anger” following an explosion at a Gazan hospital, lying about Israel's responsibility for the attack, which United States intelligence agencies said was not perpetrated by Israel; and

Whereas, Members of Congress who denounce the United States while praising terrorist organizations are unfit to hold office:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Representative RASHIDA TLAIB be censured; Representative RASHIDA TLAIB forthwith present herself in the well of the House of Representatives for the pronouncement of censure; and Representative RASHIDA TLAIB be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FITZGERALD). Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from Georgia will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

 □ 1015

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3721

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 3721.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALLEN). The gentleman's request is granted.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 756 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4394.

Will the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD) kindly take the chair.

 □ 1017

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the