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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

His Holiness Aram the First, Catholicos of the Armenian Apostolic Church of the Holy See of Cilicia, offered the following prayer:

We give thanks to You, dear God, for Your gift of life.

Grant us wisdom, courage, and vision in order that we may fully dedicate ourselves to the service of the people and the United States of America.

Help us, O God, actively engage in meaningful and fruitful deliberation and discussion for the good of our people and prosperity of our country.

Help us, God of wisdom, as elected Representatives of people to reflect and act with the profound sense of responsibility and accountability.

Help us, God of compassion, to promote mutual understanding, acceptance, and tolerance as one nation of coherent diversities.

Help us, giver of peace and justice, to work ardently for peace with justice in a world torn apart by violence and polarizations.

Help us, O God of mercy, to remember in our prayers more than 100,000 Armenian refugees who recently were forced to leave Nagorno-Karabakh, their centuries-old homeland, and face huge difficulties and uncertainties.

O God, protect us from evil and strengthen and guide us in our common responsibility.

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 gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KILDEE 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 HIS HOLINESS ARAM THE FIRST

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, today we welcome His Holiness Aram the First, Catholicos of the Holy See of the Great House of Cilicia, who graced us with an opening prayer.

His Holiness Aram the First, a true beacon of faith, holds a special place in the hearts of countless Armenians in my community and around the world. His unwavering commitment to the values of faith, community, and compassion embodies the spirit of our vibrant Armenian community.

His support for humanitarian issues, advocacy for human rights, engagement in several educational and cultural initiatives, and promotion of interfaith understanding have left an indelible mark, making the world a better place for all.

His Holiness Aram the First's prayer has not only enriched our proceedings, but also reinforced our commitment to working together in the service of our shared values.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. HINSON). The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### RECOGNIZING OUR SERVICEMEMBERS ON VETERANS DAY

(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 stand before you today to recognize the men and women who have served our country valiantly.

This Saturday, November 11, we will celebrate Veterans Day. I would take this time to honor the men and women who have served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Space Force, National Guard, as well as the Reserves.

I would also recognize the more than 800,000 veterans from my home State of Pennsylvania.

We owe a sincere debt of gratitude to all those who have served. Your sacrifice, dedication, and courage are the reasons we are able to live our lives in safety and freedom today.

Words cannot describe the level of respect and admiration we have for all of our Nation's heroes. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank them for their service.

God bless the military. God bless the United States of America.

### TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY PARKER CURRY

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Shirley Parker Curry, a passionate civic and community leader, dancer, ballet instructor, and loving friend from Jenkintown, who passed away on October 30.

It is bittersweet, yet beautifully fitting, to be honoring Shirley's life in this season of elections—especially this time of year. We miss her wisdom,

□ 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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work ethic, and that determined twinkle in her eye.

Shirley was a lifelong activist, steadfast in her ideals and committed to democracy and good governance.

In 1960, Shirley spearheaded support for John F. Kennedy's campaign, alongside my mother-in-law, Joan Cunnane. There was a group of about a dozen who called themselves the "Kennedy Girls."

Because of Shirley, the Democratic community has grown large and vibrant. I wouldn't be where I am today if it were not for Shirley asking me over and over: Run, MADELEINE, for something. Many in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, say the same.

We are better because of Shirley. Her legacy, and the legacy of her beloved husband, Representative Larry Curry, will live on in Jenkintown and Cheltenham.

God bless her family; her children, Jennifer, Jeffery, and Jacquelyn; her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren. God bless Shirley Curry.

#### VETERANS EMPLOYMENT WEEK

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

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the impact our veteran community has made on the United States' economy. Our Nation owes our veterans a debt of gratitude.

As a Marine Corps veteran, I am proud to lead a resolution with my friend and the VA Committee Ranking Member, MARK TAKANO, to designate this week as Veterans Employment Week.

Military service provides a unique and valuable experience that equips veterans with a range of skills and qualities that can easily transfer into the workforce.

Through their service, veterans learn discipline, leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, adaptability, and resilience, among other skills.

These skills are highly sought after by employers across various industries and can be leveraged to excel in a wide range of careers.

Additionally, veterans often bring a strong work ethic and a sense of duty that can contribute to a positive and productive work environment. Hiring veterans not only benefits the individual, but also organizations as a whole.

Without veterans in the workforce, America would not be a world leader in innovation and economic growth.

I am so grateful to the men and women who have served our country and continue to serve with their participation in the economy.

#### PFAS-EXPOSED VETERANS NEED HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the VET PFAS Act, legislation to ensure PFAS-exposed veterans get the healthcare benefits that they need through the Veterans Administration.

For decades, the Department of Defense has known that toxic PFAS chemicals cause serious health issues. Yet the VA continues to deny veterans, like Lieutenant Colonel Sauer, coverage for PFAS-related illnesses.

Lieutenant Sauer served in the Army for 22 years and was stationed at 10 bases with known PFAS contamination. Due to that exposure, he now has an uncertain and incurable form of cancer.

Lieutenant Colonel Sauer is sick because of his service to this country, but he has been denied access to care from the VA. When Lieutenant Sauer joined the military, we promised to take care of him when he came home. Right now, we are not making good on that sacred promise.

There are thousands of veterans like Lieutenant Colonel Sauer who have been impacted by harmful PFAS chemicals. That is why I am calling for us to immediately take up the VET PFAS Act and keep the promise we made to the people who put on the uniform of this Nation.

#### BIDEN TAX PLEDGE A LIE

(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, last month, Fox Business reported that Biden repeated his false campaign pledge that he would not raise taxes on Americans making below \$400,000. Days afterwards, tax commissioner, Danny Werfel, was hiring 3,700 employees, which is insulting as higher income earners have returns carefully prepared by professional accountants, unlike Hunter Biden's evasions.

In direct conflict to Biden, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration said there is no way to identify taxpayers that meet the criteria of \$400,000 or more.

According to Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform, the findings of the inspector general blew up the narrative, and the Democrats are knowingly lying.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America with Biden open borders and an attack here imminent.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Byron Thomas, a valued member of the congressional district office for winning a seat on the Cayce City Council. We are proud of him, and we know he will serve the public well.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BERT WINZER

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and legacy of Mr. Bert Winzer of Emmaus, Pennsylvania.

During World War II, Mr. Winzer served with distinction in the legendary Army 1st Special Service Force.

When a German artillery attack sent shrapnel within an inch of his heart, he overcame his wounds and returned to the battlefield a mere 10 days later. His grit and courageousness followed him to the Battle of the Bulge where he held off the German advance during the Siege of Bastogne.

For his heroism, Mr. Winzer was awarded a Purple Heart, a Bronze Star, and a Congressional Gold Medal, the civilian honor awarded by Congress.

After the war, Mr. Winzer spent more than 30 years working in the automobile industry, including at our own Mack Trucks.

He was an active member in his church community and volunteered his time at local schools to share his experiences of the war.

Mr. Winzer passed away last month at the age of 101 in the care of his family. Let us remember Mr. Winzer for his remarkable legacy and impact on his community and this country. Let us thank all of our veterans this Veterans Day.

□ 0915

#### ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, when Israel came back into existence in 1948, what was the first thing they were greeted by?

It was an attack. It was an attack by their Arab neighbors.

Less than 20 years later, war in 1967. Israel had to defend herself again. Six years later, in 1973, yet again, Israel had to defend herself.

What is the name of Israel's army?

It is the Israel Defense Force. Defense.

What is the Iron Dome system?

It is a defense system.

Arrow missiles are a defense system.

So what is this all about when we are seeing so much anti-Semitism and we are seeing so many pro-Palestinian protests around the country and on our college campuses coupled with anti-Semitism?

What is the core that they are defending when they are standing up for this?

They are defending the pro-Hamas movement across the world which includes their covenant. The Hamas Covenant of 1988 states in article 7: "The