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## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, December 4, 2023, at 3 p.m.

## House of Representatives

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. HINSON).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
December 1, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ASHLEY HINSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### PRAYER

Pastor Jared Timberlake, Sandhill Christian Baptist Church, Wheelersburg, Ohio, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we come to You today thankful for another day. We are thankful for Your blessings and Your love. God, I ask today that You would bring guidance to all of our Representatives and elected officials.

As a Nation, may we always seek Your face and Your will. Lord, I pray that You will bring unity to this House and to those that serve. May they serve for the common good of our Nation.

God, I thank You that You have allowed us to live in the greatest country in the world. I thank You for blessing America for 247 years.

Now, God, it is my prayer that America will bless You in all that we do, and that we will always be one Nation

under God. Protect us and guide us in Jesus' name.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SEWELL 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 GUEST CHAPLAIN JARED TIMBERLAKE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to welcome Reverend Jared Timberlake and his family to the House Chamber.

Reverend Timberlake has dedicated his life to selfless service, first through his time as a fellow Army soldier and then later through his work as a youth

minister and pastor at Sandhill Baptist Church in Scioto County, Ohio.

As President George Washington said in his farewell address: "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."

Nearly 250 years later, I am glad we welcome our religious leaders to the people's House to open our work with prayer.

Madam Speaker, I thank Reverend Timberlake for his decades of service to our country and to the local Scioto County community.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

### CONGRATULATING LIBERTY UNIVERSITY FLAMES FOOTBALL

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of the Liberty University Football Team.

On November 25, my alma mater and hometown team earned their 12th straight victory and secured the first undefeated regular season in the program's 50-year history.

Led by new head coach Jamey Chadwell, the Flames set a new school

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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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record and became the first FBS football team in Virginia history to win 12 games.

As an alum, former student-athlete, parent of three graduates, and a former employee in the Liberty University Athletic Department, I am incredibly proud of this team.

The Flames' 12-0 record and current number 20 national ranking reflects the discipline, commitment, and work ethic of these talented young men.

Their individual sacrifice, unselfishness, and willingness to play for one another and give everything for a cause bigger than themselves has placed them in tonight's Conference USA Championship game, after which they will have the opportunity to play in a prestigious bowl game.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Liberty Flames on their historic season, and I am honored to represent them in Virginia's Fifth Congressional District.

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#### REMEMBERING BIG BROTHER HARRY W. DEAN

(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, it is said that the Lord takes nothing out of season, and so in this season of Thanksgiving, I rise to give thanks for my big brother, Harry W. Dean.

After 74 years of life filled with adventure, love, and laughs, my brother Harry died on November 20.

Harry was the second eldest of our seven siblings, five boys and two girls; one for every day's grace, my parents proclaimed. We joked he was my mother's favorite. It turns out he was all of ours, too.

Harry was an exceptional athlete, a champion pole vaulter with a wicked fastball. He was effortlessly funny, a natural storyteller, king of the one-liners.

Harry was a Navy veteran, a good cook, a fisherman, surfer, a boater, a collector of cool and not-so-cool cars.

As we got older, Harry leaned into his quiet side. He was a careful collector of people, relics, and their memories.

He was a steward of our family's history, preserving the photos and legacies of those who came before. The same will be true for Harry.

Madam Speaker, in this season of Thanksgiving, Harry's brothers and sisters, alongside Claire; Adrienne, Joe; and his handsome, loving grandsons, Joey, AJ, and Jack, we are thankful for Harry. We are confident that we will see him on the other side. We love him.

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#### CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL BOONDOGGLE

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, if you want to look in the dictionary under the word "boondoggle," you would probably find the California High-Speed Rail project.

It was passed in 2008 by a narrow majority with \$9 billion worth of State funding by the taxpayers for this project to connect L.A. to San Francisco.

Fifteen years later, they still haven't laid any track. They have interrupted the flow of towns up and down the Central Valley and have put some causeways in so far, but many billions have been spent, and it is woefully over time. It was supposed to be completed by 2020.

They are going to seek more and more Federal funding. It started out to be a \$33 billion project, and now it is a \$128 billion project. At most, they would identify \$20 billion worth of funding. They are going to come here looking for the rest of it.

Instead, why don't we invest in something that can help all Americans, such as food supply and building water storage in California. That would help all Americans, not a boondoggle running up and down the valley stopping at an almond orchard near Bakersfield. That is why I am seeking to get help for Sites Reservoir, raising Shasta Dam, and other water projects that will grow the food that Americans use from California.

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#### CONCERNS REGARDING HATE SPEECH AND THREATS IN OUR COUNTRY

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise to share my concerns regarding the hate speech and threats throughout our country and the world.

We must speak loudly and clearly with one voice: Threats, harassment, and hate based on race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, or any other identity have no place in our communities, on our college campuses, and in our society.

The increase of these cases is serious and it demands action. Bills we have been voting on do not address all the rise of hate against all the protected groups, including the concurrent rise of Islamophobia and bigotry against Palestinians.

Let me be clear: I stand with our ally Israel. I condemn the violence committed against the Israeli civilians by Hamas. I speak out against anti-Semitism, but it is a glaring omission not to include other protected classes.

We are missing an opportunity to condemn hate in all its forms. I remain steadfast in condemning hate speech and the violence it inspires.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO A TRUE AMERICAN HERO, MIKE KUPER

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

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and a true American hero.

Mike Kuper passed away on November 22, 2023, at the age of 70. He is survived by his lovely wife, Yong; his son, Thomas; his daughter, Melissa; and five grandchildren.

Mike dedicated his career and life to service. He served in both the Army and the Air Force. He protected our community for three decades working for the L.A. County Sheriff's Department. He influenced hundreds of young men and women as the Law Enforcement Explorer Mentor.

Mike even continued to work as a reserve deputy after his retirement. Simply put, he went above and beyond to help others his entire life.

Mike Kuper was a great father, a great husband, and a public servant. He will be missed by his family, his friends, the L.A. County Sheriff's Department, and the Lancaster communities.

Madam Speaker, may God bless Mike Kuper and all of our peacemakers.

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#### CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF ROSA PARKS

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

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call on all of my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 308, the Rosa Parks Day Act.

Today, December 1, Americans across the Nation are celebrating the legacy of Rosa Parks. It was on December 1, 1955, when Rosa Parks was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat on a city bus. This simple but bold act of resistance to Jim Crow segregation laws inspired the historic Montgomery bus boycott.

For 481 days, spurred by Rosa Parks' courage, thousands of African Americans peacefully protested the Montgomery City Bus System until the United States court ruled in *Browder v. Gayle* that the segregation ordinances were unconstitutional.

Rosa Parks was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1966, the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999, and was the first woman to ever lie in state at the U.S. Capitol rotunda.

In addition, many States, including Ohio, California, Missouri, and Oregon already observe Rosa Parks Day at the State level. Her legacy continues to inspire new generations of Americans to advance justice and equality.

Madam Speaker, now is the time to pass this legislation and to declare December 1 as a Federal holiday, as Rosa Parks Day.