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No. 62

House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

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

Generous God, from Your bounty, You have graced us with much, with health and prosperity, opportunity and positions of honor. For all the gifts You have given us, we are truly grateful.

Remind us again that, while these gifts come without conditions, that to be given these privileges is to appreciate how they compel us to live into the responsibilities that come with them.

Truly, You have entrusted us with an abundance of riches. It is on us to respond with faithful stewardship of Your generosity.

Call us again to accountability, that we would not take for granted the purpose You intended when You showed us Your favor. Open our eyes to the needs of the people around us who depend on us to exercise our talents and abilities faithfully, to apportion our resources carefully, and to share from our plenitude, acknowledging that all that we have is Yours to use for the benefit of Your kingdom.

Bless, then, our faltering attempts to use wisely all that You have bestowed on us, that what we do this day would reflect our desire to glorify You.

We pray these prayers in Your most holy name.

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 New York (Ms. STEFANIK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. STEFANIK 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.

RESIGNATION AS CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation as a chair of the Committee on Appropriations:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
Washington, DC, April 10, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: It has been my distinct honor to serve as Chair of the Committee on Appropriations during the 118th Congress. Please accept this letter as my official resignation from the Appropriations Chair assignment, effective today, April 10, 2024.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve under your leadership. As Chair Emeritus, I will do my best to assist the new Chair in this transition and will continue to work hard for my district for the remainder of my term in Congress.

Sincerely,

KAY GRANGER,
Chairwoman, Committee on Appropriations.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS CHAIR AND MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON RULES

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation as chair and member of the Committee on Rules:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
April 10, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: I am writing to resign my position as Chairman and member of the House Rules Committee, effective immediately. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as Chairman and look forward to continuing to serve the House and my colleagues as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

If you have any questions, please contact my Chief of Staff, Joshua Grogis, at 202-225-6165 or by email at Josh-ua.Grogis@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

TOM COLE,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.
There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: I write to respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,

JOHN E. JAMES,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.
There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation as a member

□ 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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H2293

of the Committee on Education and the Workforce:

APRIL 10, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: I write to respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the Education & The Workforce Committee. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,

JOHN E. JAMES,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1133

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS: Mr. Cole, Chair.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE: Mr. James.

COMMITTEE ON RULES: Mr. Burgess, Chair. Mr. Austin Scott of Georgia (to rank after Mr. Langworthy).

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Mr. Kiley.

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, ranked as follows on the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS: Ms. Granger, after Mr. Rogers of Kentucky.

Ms. STEFANIK (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. After consultation with the majority and minority leaders, the Chair announces that, when the two Houses meet in joint meeting to hear an address by His Excellency Kishida Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those immediately to his left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House. Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly enforced. Children of Members will not be per-

mitted on the floor. The cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint meeting by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats by physical presence only following the security sweep of the Chamber.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, April 9, 2024, the House stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly, (at 9 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1047

JOINT MEETING TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY KISHIDA FUMIO, PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN

During the recess, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 10 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.

The Assistant Sergeant at Arms, Ms. Kathleen Joyce, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The joint meeting will come to order.

The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort His Excellency Kishida Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan, into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE);

The gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER);

The gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK);

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON);

The gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH);

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL);

The gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. KIGGANS);

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES);

The gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK);

The gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR);

The gentleman from California (Mr. LIEU);

The gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI);

The gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO); and

The gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. TOKUDA).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Sen-

ators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort His Excellency Kishida Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan, into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR);

The Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN);

The Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER);

The Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN);

The Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO);

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL);

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE);

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO);

The Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO);

The Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST);

The Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI);

The Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH); and

The Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY).

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms announced the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Excellency Mohamed Siad Doualeh, Ambassador of the Republic of Djibouti.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 11 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m., the Sergeant at Arms, the Honorable William P. McFarland, announced His Excellency Kishida Fumio.

The Prime Minister of Japan, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you His Excellency Kishida Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

Prime Minister KISHIDA. Mr. Speaker, Madam Vice President, honorable Members of the United States Congress, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, thank you. I never get such nice applause from the Japanese Diet.

Let me introduce my wife, Yuko, who is in the gallery. The fact that I married Yuko should give you great confidence in all my decisions.

I am truly honored to speak here in this citadel of democracy and before