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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 19, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE BOST to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

God, You are rich in mercy, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Would that we, as debtors to Your immeasurable grace, do likewise. With a great love You have loved us. Would that our hearts, as slaves to Your righteousness, be transformed by the immense blessing of Your favor.

Walking in Your spirit, we pray that You would teach us how to be merciful to those who wrong us. Diffuse our tempers that we would be slow to anger. Inspire us with a passion for Your amazing grace plan, that we would be agents of Your steadfast love—in this place, among this body—that our lives would reveal Your kindness, a mercy You desire all to receive.

In the name of the one who is love, we pray.

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 gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

(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 week, on April 2, The New York Post published an op-ed which explained the proven conservative position of peace through strength.

This confirms the world-changing success of promoting and expanding freedom of Senator Barry Goldwater and President Ronald Reagan.

Nearly 20 countries now in central and eastern Europe and Central Asia are now free because we stood firm and stood up with our Allies to defeat the Communist threat, and now we are facing, indeed, war criminal Putin, who wants to recreate the Soviet Union.

"Kudos to Speaker Johnson: Moving Ukraine Aid is Critical to National Security" by Daniel Kochis, senior fellow at the Hudson Institute—and I am very grateful that Ambassador Governor Nikki Haley will soon be a valued fellow at the Hudson Institute—quoting: "Speaker Mike Johnson's Easter an-

nouncement that he'll bring a new Ukraine-aid package to a vote . . . is welcome news."

Sadly, we are in a war we did not choose, between dictators with rule of gun invading democracies with rule of law, and we need to be standing firm for the borders of Ukraine, Israel, Taiwan, and the United States.

IN MEMORY OF ROBIE HARRIS

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, the work, and memory of one of America's most impactful authors, Roberta "Robie" Harris.

Robie, a gifted writer, a fierce advocate for free speech, a treasured friend. An educator at heart, she wrote to answer the questions that children asked her, the questions about how to understand their changing bodies, feelings, and experiences of the world they grew up in. Her award-winning writing treated children with respect and autonomy, covered a wide variety of topics from engineering and architecture to nutrition and genetics.

There are few people in this life who are kindred spirits. Robie was one for me. I am forever grateful for her friendship, humor, and generosity. Her illustrator and dear friend, Michael Emberly, described her best when he said: "She was a complicated human being in the best sense, and she had one of the best attributes you can say about a human being—she was memorable."

I will always remember and be inspired by Robie. My heart is with her family as they grieve. Robie's passion for working with children was a shared mission. Her husband, Bill, founded KidsPac, which advocates for early-childhood education. Her sons, David

□ 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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and Ben, have followed in their footsteps, working to address child poverty in this country and psychological needs.

Life without Robie will never feel the same again, but through her writing and her continued work and the work of her family, her kind and her generous spirit will always be with us.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING

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

Mrs. BICE. Mr. Speaker, for many, today is just another day on the calendar, but for Oklahomans, today marks significance.

It was 29 years ago today, April 19, 1995, that the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was bombed, and 168 Oklahoma lives were lost.

I could not be at the ceremony, which will occur later this morning back in Oklahoma, so I thought it only fitting that I stand before this body to recognize those who we have mourned over these last 29 years.

To the mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, sons, and daughters who never made it home that day, and their loved ones whose lives were changed forever, we will never forget.

Oklahomans overcame the tragedy together, forming the Oklahoma standard through the embodiment of the American spirit. It was through that unity that we found strength. Our community, our State, and our Nation will never be the same, but we remain strong.

As we mourn the lives lost, we pray for those who have and continue to suffer.

AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advocate not only for Virgin Islanders, but for all American families who risk losing access to affordable high-speed internet. The Affordable Connectivity Program, a key component of President Biden's bipartisan infrastructure law, has been critical to bridging the digital divide, providing over 23 million households nationwide significant savings on their monthly internet bills. In the Virgin Islands alone, this program benefits over 6,000 households, representing one in every six homes across our territory.

Through this initiative, Virgin Islands' families maintain access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. Yet, this crucial lifeline hangs in the balance.

To my Republican colleagues, we, once again, call on the majority to provide additional funding through the Af-

fordable Connectivity Program. For the sake of our children, our economy, and our future, we must ensure that every household remains connected.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH DEI?

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, one of the topics going around America today and around this institution is: What is wrong with DEI? I bring attention to an article in The Washington Times earlier this week in which they pointed out that America's colleges and universities are sometimes having voluntary separate graduation ceremonies depending upon race or sex.

The only purpose for this is to put it into people's heads that forever they should be divisive and they are not 100 percent American, but they should always consider themselves Hispanic American or Asian American or what have you.

We see the same thing in America's large corporations, where our grossly overpaid CEOs are hiring these people to divide people once they go out in the working world.

I call upon the regents, the State legislators, and the boards of directors to take action and get rid of this occupation in their midst, the sole purpose of which is to permanently divide Americans.

SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, reading is powerful. As we celebrate School Library Month, we honor the sanctuaries of knowledge that shape young minds and inspire lifelong learning.

School libraries are more than just rooms filled with books. They are gateways to imagination, innovation, and discovery that remain steadfast in their mission to cultivate critical thinking and foster a love for reading.

Let us recognize the tireless efforts of those who curate diverse collections, provide invaluable resources, and serve as mentors to our students.

As we commemorate School Library Month, let us reaffirm our commitment to supporting these vital institutions. Together, let us ensure that every student has access to the transformative power of knowledge within the walls of a school library.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8034, ISRAEL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8035, UKRAINE SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8036, INDO-PACIFIC SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8038, 21ST CENTURY PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONCURRENCE BY THE HOUSE IN THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 815, WITH AN AMENDMENT

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1160 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1160

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 8034) making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the situation in Israel and for related expenses for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) 30 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. At any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8035) making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the situation in Ukraine and for related expenses for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of