

There was no objection.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 31, 2024.

Re Resignation from the U.S. House of Representatives.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I write to notify you that pursuant to New York State Law, I have tendered my resignation as the Representative in Congress for the 26th Congressional District of the State of New York to the Secretary of State of the State of New York, effective at the end of the calendar day on February 2nd, 2024.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

BRIAN HIGGINS.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 30, 2024.

Re Resignation from the U.S. House of Representatives

Hon. ROBERT J. RODRIGUEZ,
Secretary of State of the State of New York,
Albany, NY.

DEAR MR. RODRIGUEZ: Pursuant to Section 31 of the Public Officers Law, I hereby resign as the Representative in Congress for the 26th Congressional District of the State of New York, effective at 12:00 midnight, the end of the calendar day, on Friday, February 2nd. I am providing concurrent notification to the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

BRIAN HIGGINS,
Member of Congress.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF E. PHILLIP HICKMAN

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

Mrs. KIGGANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of E. Phillip Hickman of Virginia's Eastern Shore.

Born in July of 1952, Phil grew up in northern Accomack County, graduating from Atlantic High School. He attended Virginia Tech, studying agricultural economics, and returned to the shore upon graduation.

Together with his brother David, they founded Dublin Farms in Horntown, Virginia, and built it into the center of potato growing in the Commonwealth.

Phil was extremely active in the Virginia agriculture community, serving as the chairman of the Virginia State Seed Potato Board, National Potato Board, and countless other local organizations.

Matching his dedication to his community was his next-level enthusiasm

for the Virginia Tech Hokies, owning a maroon pickup, an orange boat, and a van dedicated to tailgating. If it was a Saturday during football season, you could count on Phil to be cheering on Tech.

Phil was a devoted family man, raising the next generation of great Virginia farmers at Dublin Farms. He leaves behind a wife, son, daughter-in-law, two grandchildren, and his brother.

Phil Hickman embodied the culture and values of the Eastern Shore, leaving behind an unforgettable legacy. The Commonwealth mourns his loss.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the beginning of Black History Month. This month, we celebrate the tremendous contributions of African Americans to the growth of our Nation.

Black History Month started as Negro History Week in February of 1926. That week was chosen because it included the birthdays of President Abraham Lincoln and famed abolitionist Frederick Douglass.

In 1976, they expanded it to create Black History Month. Today, Africans Americans make a difference in every aspect of American life. Black History Month is a time to remember that and highlight the fact that the African-American story is one that is rich and woven into the history of our great Nation.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S ECONOMIC POLICIES

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, President Biden's economic policies continue to wreak havoc on families across our country, including the Tennessee families I represent.

Prices have skyrocketed by 17.2 percent since the President was sworn into office. The experts tell us these rising prices are a direct result of the deficit spending of the last 3 years, coupled with rising energy costs. However, this administration continues to borrow and stifle American energy growth with multitudes of new and costly regulations.

When President Biden took office, gas prices averaged less than \$2 per gallon in Tennessee. Right now, they are more than \$3. This is a direct result of the President's ongoing war against American energy production.

House Republicans remain committed to getting our fiscal house back in order by cutting deficit spending and passing legislation that robustly grows our economy to help get us out of the red.

COMMEMORATING 25 YEARS OF FAIRNESS IN MY HOMETOWN

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

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate 25 years of fairness in my hometown of Louisville, Kentucky.

When I was a kid, it wasn't uncommon for someone to be fired just for being gay or kicked out of their home or denied service in a store or restaurant. We don't know how common it was because there was no official body to report it to, because it was completely legal. It is painful to think about.

Fortunately, 25 years ago this week, a citizen-led effort in Louisville resulted in Kentucky's first fairness ordinance, one of the first in the Nation, banning discrimination against our LGBTQ+ neighbors.

I thank everyone who courageously fought for this life-changing achievement way back in 1999.

Today, 24 Kentucky communities and 31 States have these protections. It is time for the rest of our Commonwealth and our country to follow Louisville's lead.

For my entire adult life, fairness has been a reality in Louisville, and we are all better for it.

A WARNING AGAINST THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S NEW INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR RULE

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

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Labor has announced a new independent contractor rule, which will cost millions of American jobs and be absolutely devastating for our workforce and our economy. We know that, because we have seen the effects of the law it was modeled on, AB 5, in California.

As a warning against the Biden administration's new rule, I am sharing the stories of Californians who have suffered under that law.

For example, Esther said: I help people who don't speak English communicate with medical providers. I am a proud senior, independent and self-sufficient. AB 5 leaves me out of work, unprotected, and isolated. It takes away my pride. It was passed without taking people like me into account.

To spare millions of Americans the same fate as Esther, I am calling on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in Congressional Review Act legislation to nullify the Biden administration's new independent contractor rule.

MAKE THE CHILD TAX CREDIT PERMANENT

(Ms. STANSBURY asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, we just voted here in the House to bring back the child tax credit, one of the most important and effective efforts to help working families and to lift children out of poverty in generations.

These payments will provide a crucial lifeline to families struggling to make ends meet. The previous child tax credit helped almost 75,000 families across my district alone. Here are some of the stories that we heard.

One said: It was the only thing keeping my family afloat while my partner was able to pursue his dream of starting a business.

Another said: As working parents, we struggled between childcare costs and paying a mortgage. The child tax credit was the only thing keeping us afloat.

Another said: It was the thing that helped pay down my student loans.

These are just a few of the many stories of how the child tax credit gave New Mexico families a lifeline. Here we are this week fighting to get it passed. I will not stop until we make the permanent child tax credit a reality and get it across the finish line.

RESTORING SMART TAX POLICY MATTERS

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, the tax and regulatory burdens on our businesses are crippling, and it is incumbent upon us to change that.

Last night, Congress took a step in the right direction to do something positive to help businesses in this struggling economy. We came together to pass the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act. This bill will spur American innovation and competitiveness, will reinvigorate manufacturing jobs at home, and will restore Trump-era, business-friendly tax policies that spur economic growth.

My east Texas businesses have been asking for a progrowth, projob, and pro-American tax package designed to revitalize our economy and provide relief to American small businesses. Last night, we provided such a package.

Restoring smart tax policy matters. This bill extends the 2017 Republican Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that has a proven track record of incentivizing U.S. investment, lifting families out of poverty, and allowing Americans to keep more of their paychecks.

I stand with our small businesses, and I thank Chairman SMITH for his diligent work on this thoughtful tax policy.

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CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF AMP FIDDLER

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of Joseph "Amp" Fiddler as we mourn his passing.

Amp Fiddler was born in Detroit and grew up surrounded by the sounds of Motown, rock, jazz, funk, and electronic music.

His big break came when he joined the legendary George Clinton Parliament Funkadelic. It was during this time that Amp honed his skills on the keyboard and synthesizers, contributing significantly to the band's distinctive sound.

Fiddler collaborated with many notable artists, like Prince and is credited with helping launch the pioneering hip-hop sounds of our own Detroit's legendary J Dilla.

He enjoyed a long and successful solo career, marked by his distinctive blend of funk and contemporary sounds. Fiddler always remained humble and dedicated to his craft and our community.

Please join me in recognizing Amp Fiddler, a true guiding force for Detroit's musical culture as we mourn his loss.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize February as Career and Technical Education Month. In recognizing this month, we are highlighting the value that career and technical education has not just for our students but for our country.

As the co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I am proud to be an advocate for CTE and the work that we do to support job training, apprenticeships, and CTE programs.

Skills-based education provides learners of all ages with career-ready skills, giving individuals the tools to succeed and restore the rungs on the ladder of opportunity. A highly skilled workforce is important to the success of our American workforce.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have the co-chair of the bipartisan CTE Caucus, Congresswoman BONAMICI join me in introducing a resolution to recognize the importance of career and technical education.

In Congress, I will continue to work feverishly to close our Nation's skills gap and provide our next generation of workers with the tools needed to succeed.

CHILD TAX CREDIT RELIEF

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, after a long fight, and as a senior mem-

ber of the Budget Committee, we have gotten to a point where we can say to the American people: We care about you, and we care about your families and most of all your children.

The first step yesterday of taking a leap to be able to establish for this Nation permanent child tax credit relief is unbelievable in terms of the lives of America's children. Please be reminded that this is for our children.

I cannot forget the emotions that I felt when I opened up the registration for the child tax relief during the pandemic, when the Biden administration gave that opportunity, and to see the mothers coming in with two and three children, one in a stroller, seeking to be able to get the relief that was needed.

This permanent tax relief must be passed and, again, I will continue this fight into the Senate to ensure that in the middle of filing season this legislation could deepen relief for 16 million children and lift as many as 400,000 children above the poverty line in the first year alone. Increase the maximum refundability of the credit, giving eligible families the option to use their earned income from the prior year. That is crucial to be able to ensure that the child tax credit lifts our children up and helps our families. Let's get permanent child tax relief done.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF TIM MONAHAN

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Tim Monahan for his 15 years of service to the House of Representatives.

A native of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Tim began his service to the House by working with the Chief Administrative Officer. He later joined the staff of the House Appropriations Committee, where he worked on the Legislative Branch Subcommittee. Tim then joined the House Administration Committee, where he rose through the ranks, first as director of oversight, then deputy staff director, and finally staff director.

At the beginning of this Congress, Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY elevated Tim to the director of House operations in the Office of the Speaker. He remained in this position to assist with the transition to Speaker MIKE JOHNSON.

In every position, Tim brought an unmatched level of understanding and creativity. He has implemented enterprise reforms that have helped make this a better place to conduct the people's business and improved the lives of everyone who works here.