



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 170

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

No. 107

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, June 28, 2024, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 26, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK ALFORD 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:

Eternal God, in this moment, take us away from the noise and demands of our work just the echoes of which seek to deafen our ears to Your voice. But speak through the clamor and silence all voices but Your own, that we would hear Your enduring Word for this day.

As complex as today's circumstances may appear, let us pay heed to this simple fact: With You, O Lord, one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years are as one day. Today, may there fall on us a sense of Your timeless power. Thus, humbled before You, may we become more aware and let go of the fleeting things we seek to control.

Give us a clearer understanding of Your perfect holiness, that our own accomplishments would not serve as the source of our pride or purpose.

Open our eyes to Your infinite and beautiful creation, that we would put our own achievements in perspective, and yield ourselves to Your divine and gracious plan. May all that we strive to do serve to glorify You.

In the wealth of Your everlasting love, may we be content to leave in Your hands the outcome of our best intentions, the resolution to our most complex concerns, and the answer to our deepest desires.

In Your ageless name 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 gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TLAIB 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 15 requests

for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING A HISTORIC FIRST-TIME CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH IN THE BLUFF

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a historic first-time celebration in the Fourth District of Arkansas. This year, the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff hosted its first-ever Juneteenth in the Bluff celebration. This event served to celebrate freedom and triumph by highlighting the region's rich arts and cultural legacy through live music, art exhibitions, and food.

Juneteenth itself commemorates the last enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas, learning of their freedom on June 19, 1865, marking the end of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth is a celebration of liberty and a call to action, reminding us that the fights for our God-given rights and the basic tenets of freedom are ongoing.

On June 19, the city of Pine Bluff honored their resilience and the countless contributions of Black Americans throughout our history. Along with this, they were also able to celebrate the faculty, students, and staff at UAPB who have impacted and shaped the arts in not just Arkansas, but also nationwide.

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.



Printed on recycled paper.

H4155

As we reflect on our past, let us commit to building a future where justice prevails and every American enjoys the full promise of freedom.

CALLING OUT DTE ENERGY'S RATE HIKES AND CORPORATE GREED

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I am getting tired of coming to the House floor to call out DTE Energy's corporate greed in my district.

My residents cannot afford DTE's ridiculous rate hikes and terrible, unreliable service.

Check this out: They increase rates between the hours of 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. when the majority of our families are home, literally in the middle of a deadly heat wave with temperatures of nearly 100 degrees.

Despite DTE making more than a billion dollars in rate hikes in the last decade and \$313 million in the second quarter of this year, DTE is never satisfied.

DTE is one of the worst utilities in the Nation for power outages and restoring power. Yet we pay 16 percent more than the national average for this failing service.

As long as a for-profit company controls our electrical power, it will be unaffordable and unreliable.

We need public power. DTE and other for-profit utilities should be turned into publicly-owned and operated services so our families can live safely and have livable conditions in our country.

NATIONAL DAIRY 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 as a proud descendant of dairy farmers to honor National Dairy Month.

As the first chairman of the House Agriculture Committee from Pennsylvania in nearly 170 years, I know the importance of America's dairy industry.

Our Commonwealth is home to more than 5,000 dairy farms with more than 470,000 cows. We produce nearly 10 billion pounds of milk each year and for every cow, we generate \$24,000 in economic revenue.

The American dairy industry is an economic powerhouse, home to nearly 10 million dairy cows, supporting over 3 million jobs, and generating nearly \$42 billion in direct wages.

America's dairy farmers produce more than 200 billion pounds of milk each year, ensuring that there is a consistent and reliable supply of essential nutrients.

However, the story of American dairy goes deeper than just statistics and numbers. It is a story of family farms

and hardworking producers. Dairy producers work tirelessly every day of the year to provide nutritious products for consumers here and around the world.

American dairy is a robust and dynamic sector that supports our economy, nourishes our population, and embodies the values of hard work and determination.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of our dairy farmers and producers across the Commonwealth and around the country.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF ROBERT LUCCHESI ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a pillar of our New Paltz community, Police Chief Robert Lucchesi, as he retires after over three decades serving our community on the force.

Chief Lucchesi is everything a community could want in a leader: He brought a zeal for service to every moment spent in uniform, a devotion to neighbors and strangers alike, and the profound ability to constantly reflect on how his team could better protect, serve, uplift, and empower our community.

He set the standard and built a culture based on trust not only in his department, but throughout our entire region by serving on the Police Chiefs Association of Ulster County and Mid-Hudson Chiefs of Police Association.

Chief Lucchesi has more than earned a relaxing retirement, but that is not who he is. Fully grounded in a life of service, he is already back in public service sitting on the New Paltz Zoning Board of Appeals, serving as a volunteer firefighter, and in his spare time, somehow, coaching youth sports in New Paltz and our community.

Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor to serve and work with Chief Lucchesi. On behalf of our entire community, I thank him for his decades of service past, present, and future.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S OPEN-BORDER POLICIES ARE DANGEROUS TO AMERICAN WOMEN AND GIRLS

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

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, a 13-year-old girl was raped in New York City by an illegal immigrant from Ecuador released into our country by Border Patrol thanks to Joe Biden's open-border policies.

In Texas, 12-year-old Jocelyn Nungaray was raped and murdered by two illegal immigrants from Venezuela, again, released into our country at the direction of the Biden administration.

Laken Riley's killer, a Venezuelan gang member, was granted parole by the Biden administration, then repeat-

edly arrested and released by sanctuary city New York, the only reason Laken is not alive today.

Rachel Morin's killer, an illegal immigrant from El Salvador, crossed Biden's open border, successfully evading CBP custody.

Kayla Hamilton's killer from El Salvador was allowed to enter by the Biden administration, despite associations with the violent MS-13 gang.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask how many more American women and girls will suffer the same fate before President Biden reverses his policies? I also ask: Where are our colleagues on the other side of the aisle that claim to be champions of women?

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN ROBERT "AL" PERSICHIETTI

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Robert "Al" Persichitti, a World War II veteran and beloved member of my community who recently passed away while en route to Normandy for the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

I had the honor of meeting Al several years ago, and we became fast friends. I loved hearing him talk about his time in the United States Navy where he served in Guadalcanal, the Battle of Okinawa, and the fight at Iwo Jima, landmark moments in our country's history.

At the spry young age of 102, Al's dedication to his country never wavered. Al embodied the very meaning of the word "patriot," and his commitment to service over self should inspire us all.

May we follow the famous advice of General George Patton by not mourning the death of Al Persichitti, but instead thanking God that such a remarkable man lived.

Mr. Speaker, may Al rest in peace. He certainly earned it.

RECOGNIZING SMALL BUSINESS OF THE MONTH, NOBLE CONCRETE AND PRECAST

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

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fourth District of Missouri's Small Business of the Month for June, Noble Concrete and Precast, a female-owned concrete business that sells top-of-the line products, built by experienced farmers who are committed to providing the best experience to all customers.

Located in Lamar, Missouri, Noble Concrete and Precast is a local go-to source for high-quality concrete cattle feeders, raised beds, stock tanks, retaining walls, and much more.

As a family-owned and operated business since 1990, their affiliations speak