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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, February 16, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.

House of Representatives

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. MALOY).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 13, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CELESTE MALOY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

NO PRODUCTS MADE WITH SLAVE LABOR SHOULD BE BOUGHT AND SOLD IN THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, as we speak, the Chinese Communist Party continues to imprison and detain more than 1 million Uyghurs in western China with as many as 100,000 subjected to forced labor. That is slavery.

This is a clear violation of human rights by the Chinese Communist Party who have continued to jail those who speak out against their oppression, and that includes Christian ministers. It is time for the United States to send a clear message that no products made with slave labor should be bought and sold in these United States.

It is time to pass the No Dollars to Uyghurs Forced Labor Act and prevent the State Department or U.S. agencies from purchasing any goods made by forced labor under the Chinese Communist Party. We cannot stand by as clothes, as sneakers, as batteries, and solar panels are manufactured under these conditions.

It is time to stand up against the Chinese Communist Party and put a stop to this human rights abuse.

LET'S STOP LIBERAL SPENDING PRIORITIES
AHEAD OF FISCAL SECURITY

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, last week a report from the Congressional Budget Office delivered the news that President Biden's so-called Inflation Reduction Act would ultimately cost an additional \$428 billion over the next 10 years.

This runaway spending from Biden is yet another example of putting liberal spending priorities ahead of fiscal responsibility. Instead of using natural gas, coal, and Marcellus shale that is

underneath the feet of my constituents in Pennsylvania, the Biden administration is using taxpayer dollars to incentivize Americans to buy electric vehicles that rely on batteries and parts manufactured under the Chinese Communist Party.

Let's be clear: A car made with a battery from China is a Chinese car. It is time to put a stop to failed EV subsidies that continue to push our Nation deeper into debt.

As I travel throughout central and southwestern Pennsylvania, I hear from constituents about electric vehicles that are ineffective during our harsh winters, and I hear from car dealers who tell me that these overpriced vehicles sit on their lots unable to be sold.

President Biden shouldn't be telling Americans what type of vehicles they can drive and what type of vehicles they cannot drive. It is time to unleash American energy dominance right here at home and put an end to the Green New Deal initiatives, the initiatives that are causing spending out of control.

AMERICA MUST CONTINUE TO OPPOSE BASHAR AL-ASSAD'S BARBARIC REGIME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, it has been more than a dozen years since the Syrian revolution

□ 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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began against Bashar al-Assad's dictatorship. In that time, America and our allies have stood together in opposition to Assad's barbaric regime.

Some in the region may be ready to look past the atrocities committed by Assad's forces. Some countries are even willing to recognize the Assad regime. America must not.

We must go further. We must use our diplomatic strength to counter these misguided steps. Assad, his regime, and their backers have given us no basis whatsoever to justify normalizing relations with a government responsible for the slaughter of 600,000 men, women, and children.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass the Assad Anti-Normalization Act.

PAKISTAN'S ELECTIONS MUST REFLECT THE WILL OF ITS PEOPLE, NOT ITS MILITARY

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, I will address the results of Thursday's elections in Pakistan and the ongoing vote count there.

I am deeply disturbed by the numerous reports that Pakistan's military is engaging in vote-rigging and violence to overturn the results of Thursday's elections.

These latest actions follow months of targeted suppression, politically motivated arrests, and brutal intimidation tactics.

The results of Pakistan's elections must reflect the will of its people, not its military. It is imperative that every effort is made to ensure that every vote is counted fairly and accurately, and that violence is prevented at all costs.

As we continue to monitor the results out of Pakistan, I urge the State Department to delay recognizing a winner until these allegations are fully reviewed.

STOP FUNDING FOREIGN WARS AND GOVERNMENTS WITH TAXPAYER DOLLARS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I urge the House and the Senate together to consider what terrible days we are in for the American taxpayer.

America has been enslaved in \$34 trillion in debt, and yet over the weekend, the Senate went into overtime throughout the Super Bowl and beyond into the early morning hours to pass a \$95 billion package to fund foreign wars—\$95 billion, and not a penny of that goes to anything for any American.

Our border is completely being invaded every single day by millions and millions of people from all over the world, over 160 countries. Over 2 million got-aways are in America today.

A got-away is a person from a country we do not know where they are from, we do not know where they are inside our country, what State they are

in, what city they are in. We do not know what they are going to do here on our homeland, but we have lost them.

Over 10 million people have crossed the border during the Biden administration, yet the Senate works overtime to fund foreign wars—\$95 billion, and \$60 billion of that is to go to Ukraine.

America has already sent \$113 billion to the failing war in Ukraine. It is a complete buzz saw for an entire generation of Ukrainian men. This is a land where there should be peace talks continuously ending this war, not a place where we continue to write blank checks and keep the money laundering going, keep the corruption going, keep selling our weapons to lands and countries and governments we do not know.

There is so many stories of corruption coming from Ukraine, but they claim that we have to fight for the democracy of Ukraine. That is a lie. Ukraine suspended their elections.

If we are fighting for democracy, why do we fight for a country that suspends their election, locks up American journalists, and destroys free speech.

This is nothing but a money laundering scheme all on the backs of the American taxpayer while the American taxpayer is punched in the gut every single day as our border is kept wide open.

The American people do not support continuing this war. The American people work hard for every single penny they earn, and it is time for the House and the Senate, Republicans and Democrats, to remember our oath of office. It is time for us to serve the American people, the American interest, American causes, American businesses, and the American border.

Yet, this institution has lost its way. Madam Speaker, we are \$34 trillion in debt, and the only thing that we are talking about is the continued funding of a war in Ukraine and funding a war in Israel.

That is a danger for Israel. If Israel takes America's money, they open themselves up to the Biden administration and the State Department getting their hooks in their government and telling them what to do in their war.

Israel doesn't need to be told what to do in their war. They need to be allowed to conduct their war as they see fit. They were attacked horrendously by Hamas who are terrorists.

We need to leave Israel alone and let them fight their war, but no. Every single time we come back into town, the main issues we talk about here are how to fund foreign countries, foreign wars, and foreign governments while the entire world invades our country, and the American taxpayers are forced to pay for it all.

This is a complete failure for the American taxpayer. It is a betrayal of our citizens. This institution, the House and the Senate, need to remember our one constitutional duty, and that is to create a budget, a budget that funds our government for our people; a budget that does not enslave our

people into further debt, and yet we have failed to do that. We have only passed 7 of our 12 appropriation bills and the Senate has not finished passing their appropriation bills either.

I am here to urge my colleagues in the House and the Senate that we must come together and remember our oath of office, remember the people that we serve, and do our jobs. We serve the American people, and we should be serving the United States of America.

SUPPORTING THE SUPPLEMENTAL AID PACKAGE FOR UKRAINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. NICKEL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NICKEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the supplemental aid package for Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan.

This morning, the Senate passed the aid package with nearly all Senate Democrats voting in favor of the bill. I thank Senate Democrats for their tireless leadership on this issue and their commitment to democracy around the world.

Madam Speaker, 22 Republicans also voted with nearly all Senate Democrats to move this bill to the House; 22 Senate Republicans voted to put country over party; 22 Senate Republicans voted to put democracy over Donald Trump.

This bill includes funding to stand with our allies in Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan. It also includes \$9.2 billion in humanitarian assistance that is desperately needed to provide food, water, shelter, and medical care for the civilians in Gaza and the West Bank, Ukraine, and other war zones around the world.

Now, Madam Speaker, the eyes of the world are watching the House of Representatives. Russia is watching. China is watching. Iran is watching. North Korea is watching.

Authoritarian regimes around the world are watching the House. They are watching the people's House to see if we will honor our commitments and stand with democracies around the globe.

We must stand with Ukraine and our allies.

Madam Speaker, the world is watching the United States House of Representatives.

Just last night, Speaker MIKE JOHNSON said that the bill was dead on arrival in the House, saying: "[In] the absence of having received any single border policy change from the Senate, the House will have to continue to work its own will on these important matters."

He is reading straight out of the Vladimir Putin playbook. Inaction would be a gift to Russia and Vladimir Putin. By doing nothing, we would hand over Ukraine to Russia and Putin.

Madam Speaker, Russia would not stop at Ukraine. As soon as Ukraine