



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 170

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024

No. 156

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GRIFFITH).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
October 15, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable H. MORGAN GRIFFITH 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:

Teach us today, O Lord, to live by faith and not by sight. There are so many issues, concerns, and worries that press us from every side. Remind us again that our faith in You will not allow us to be crushed.

Countless unknowns, the uncertainty of our future, our health, our welfare, all cause us to be perplexed. Remind us again that our faith in You will not leave us in despair.

The suffering in our world, in our Nation, in our communities, even in our homes, persecutes our sense of rightness. Remind us again that our faith in You assures us that none of Your children are abandoned, none will be separated from Your love.

When all hope seems lost, when our energies are depleted, when we are struck down with nothing left to pick us up, remind us again that our faith in You will always protect us from being destroyed.

All of what we see around us is temporary. May we fix our eyes on what is unseen: Your eternal and gracious plan for our lives today and always.

In Your sovereign name we pray.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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 LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL AND APPOINTMENT AS LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as Legislative Counsel of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL,  
Washington, DC, October 1, 2024.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby submit my resignation as Legislative Counsel of the United States House of Representatives, effective at the end of November 3, 2024.

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as Legislative Counsel to the House, its members and committees, and to lead the Office of the Legislative Counsel.

Sincerely,

ERNEST WADE BALLOU, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker accepts the resignation of Ernest Ballou, Jr., Legislative Counsel, effective November 3, 2024.

Pursuant to section 521 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 (2

U.S.C. 282), the Speaker appoints Warren Burke, Legislative Counsel, to succeed Ernest Ballou, Jr., resigned.

### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(z) of House Resolution 5, the House stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m., on Friday, October 18, 2024.

Thereupon (at 10 o'clock and 3 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, October 18, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-5653. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-559, "Female Genital Mutilation Prohibition Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5654. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-552, "Family Re-Housing Stabilization Program Protection Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5655. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-560, "Sign Regulations Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5656. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-561, "Buzzard Point Park and Trails National Park Service Grant Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5657. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-562, "Transportation Improvements Temporary Amendment Act of

□ 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.

H5871

2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5658. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-563, "Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Technology Incubator Grant Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5659. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-564, "Medical Cannabis Clarification and Non-Resident Patient Access Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5660. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-565, "Medical Cannabis Patient Access Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5661. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-566, "African American Civil War Museum Limited Grant-Making Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5662. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-567, "Pilot Truancy Reduction Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5663. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-570, "District of Columbia Housing Authority Stabilization and Reform Temporary Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-5664. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 25-558, "New Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights Amendment Act of 2024", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. HILL (for himself, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. ROSE, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, and Mr. MEUSER):

H.R. 9990. A bill to increase access to affordable housing, reduce regulatory barriers, increase oversight, and assist the most vulnerable; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. NICKEL (for himself and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 9991. A bill to amend the Credit Repair Organizations Act to add additional protections against harmful practices within the credit repair organization industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SELF:

H.R. 9992. A bill to amend title 41, United States Code, to identify individuals who commit certain Federal felonies implicating Federal programs as an excluded source on the System for Award Management Exclusions list, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Ms. SHERRILL (for herself and Mrs. HAYES):

H.R. 9993. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the establishment and operation of small food retail businesses in areas with high food retail concentration and low levels of competition; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 9994. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount that can be withdrawn without penalty from individual retirement plans as first-time homebuyer distributions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 9995. A bill to immediately halt investment by United States persons in the energy sector of Venezuela until the legitimate results of the July 28, 2024, election are respected; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. YAKYM:

H.R. 9996. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the laws relating to patient advocacy for patients who receive health care furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. RAMÍREZ, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H. Res. 1544. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 22, 2024, as "National Hispanic Nurses Day" and recognizing the National Association of Hispanic Nurses as the leading organization representing and advocating for Hispanic nurses; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SOTO (for himself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CORREA, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. RAMÍREZ, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H. Res. 1545. A resolution recognizing October 15, 2024, as the day to honor the diaspora of Hispanic culture, and the representation of Hispanics in the legal profession and the judiciary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. HILL:

H.R. 9990.  
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:  
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:  
Increase access to affordable housing, reduce regulatory barriers, increase oversight, and assist the most vulnerable.

By Mr. NICKEL:

H.R. 9991.  
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

General Welfare Clause

The single subject of this legislation is:

Financial Services

By Mr. SELF:

H.R. 9992.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would prevent individuals convicted of defrauding the government from engaging in business with federal agencies.

By Ms. SHERRILL:

H.R. 9993.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States of America  
The single subject of this legislation is:

Lowering food prices for families by expanding competition in the grocery industry

By Ms. STEVENS:

H.R. 9994.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Savings

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 9995.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit United States investments in the Venezuelan energy sector until the results of the July 2024 presidential election are honored.

By Mr. YAKYM:

H.R. 9996.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would create an independent office under the Office of the VA Secretary that would provide casework services to veterans and provide Congress with quarterly recommendations to improve the provision of VA healthcare, benefits, and cost efficiency.

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 333: Mrs. DINGELL.

H.R. 521: Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 655: Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 1198: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 1321: Mr. MORAN and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 1491: Ms. SCHRIER.

H.R. 1572: Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 1582: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 1610: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 2401: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2474: Mr. FALLON and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H.R. 2539: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 2673: Mr. RULLI, Ms. LEE of Florida, and Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 2923: Ms. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 2965: Mr. GARBARINO and Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 2966: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 3386: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 3519: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 3611: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.