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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

December 4, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAKE LATURNER 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 11:50 a.m.

HARDWORKING PENNSYLVANIA ENTREPRENEURS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hardworking entrepreneurs of Pennsylvania in celebration of Small Business Saturday.

Small businesses across our Nation are the backbone of our economy and the heart of our communities. Now, more than ever, they need our support.

For small business owners, their shops are more than just a business, it is an extension of who they are.

When you think about the places that give our neighborhoods their unique character, we think about the coffee shop on the corner, the boutique where you find the perfect gift, or the family-owned diner that feels like home.

Small Business Saturday is about recognizing the value of our small businesses and showing them the support that they deeply deserve. Since its inception in 2010, the total reported U.S. spending on small businesses during Small Business Saturday is an estimated \$201 billion according to data from the Small Business Administration.

SBA's data for 2023 shows the reported projected spending in the United States from those who shopped at small businesses on Small Business Saturday fell to around \$17 billion. This support is crucial to small businesses across the Nation and in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Small businesses play a vital role in Pennsylvania's economy. Pennsylvania is home to 1.1 million small businesses that employ 2.5 million individuals, about half of the State's private workforce.

Behind every small business is a story. It is a story of risk and resilience, of people who took a leap of faith to turn their dreams into reality, and of neighbors who refuse to give up even when the times are tough.

Small Business Saturday isn't just about shopping. It is about appreciation. It is about recognizing that when we support small businesses, we invest in the people who invest in the United States and invest in us.

It is about thanking those who contribute so much to our communities. Our entrepreneurs are leaders. They support our schools, sponsor sports teams, and give us spaces to gather, connect, and grow.

As we progress in this season of gratitude and giving, let's pause and choose small. Whether it is picking up a holiday gift from a local shop, dining at a family-owned restaurant, or simply spreading the word about a business you love, every action counts.

Mr. Speaker, supporting the local businesses within our communities not only keeps those businesses alive, but it also keeps the communities they serve thriving for generations to come.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF ROSA PARKS

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

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the legacy of an American heroine, Mrs. Rosa Parks, as we observe the 69th anniversary of her historic arrest in Montgomery, Alabama.

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks took a bold stand against segregation by refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus. Her quiet, dignified courage sparked the beginning of the Montgomery Bus Boycott and galvanized a movement that changed the very fabric of this Nation.

Beginning on December 5, and continuing for the next 13 months, African Americans in Montgomery, Alabama, brought the city's bus system to a screeching halt. Their efforts were successful, resulting in the November 1956 Supreme Court decision outlawing racial segregation on public buses.

The changemakers who staged the Montgomery Bus Boycott are a testament to the will of a disenfranchised people to take control of their own destiny, and their success quickly became the global model for nonviolent human rights advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, 69 years later, as the benefactors of their sacrifices, we remain indebted to them for laying the foundation of the continued struggle

□ 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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for liberty and justice for all. That is why today, I am proud to be leading the effort in Congress to designate December 1 as Rosa Parks Day to commemorate her historic arrest.

H.R. 308, the Rosa Parks Day Act, was the very first bill that I introduced in the 118th Congress, along with my colleagues, Chairman of the CBC, STEVEN HORSFORD of Nevada, and Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY of Ohio.

It will help ensure that Rosa Parks' brave sacrifice is never forgotten, and it will remind us of the power of ordinary Americans to achieve extraordinary social change.

Moreover, it will become the first Federal holiday in our Nation's history to honor a Black woman. Rosa Parks is a true American hero. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996, the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999, and even became the first woman to ever lie in state at the U.S. Capitol rotunda.

Her lifelong work in the fight for equality and justice still resonates today. There is no more befitting figure in our Nation's history to honor with a new Federal holiday.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 308, the Rosa Parks Day Act.

HONORING COLLIERVILLE MAYOR STAN JOYNER

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

Mr. KUSTOFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifelong west Tennessean, a dedicated public servant, and, frankly, just a good friend, Collierville Mayor Stan Joyner.

Stan Joyner, after 25 years of exemplary public service, has decided to retire from public service and pass the torch. Stan Joyner's roots run wide and deep in Shelby County. Born and raised in Collierville, Tennessee, Stan attended and played football at Collierville High School, and still to this day, you can find him in the stands cheering on his alma mater.

Stan Joyner was elected as a Collierville alderman in 1999. In 2008, Stan Joyner was elected as the town's mayor. One of Stan Joyner's significant achievements as mayor was establishing a municipal school system for Collierville. Stan led his community through the formation and the development of the Collierville Schools system, the election of the first Collierville school board, and the hiring of a Collierville Schools superintendent.

In my opinion, the creation of the Collierville Schools system is one of the primary reasons that Collierville is such a desirable place to live in Tennessee. Without a doubt, Stan has worked diligently to ensure that every child in Collierville has access to an education that prepares them for success.

Stan Joyner has also long understood that people choose where to live based

on the quality of life that they are going to experience. Now, obviously, this depends on the strength of the local schools, which I just talked about, the vibrancy of the community, and the opportunities for economic growth.

Under the mayor's leadership, Collierville has seen a boom in local business development, as well as economic expansion. Stan's deep knowledge of Collierville's past, his commitment to the future, and his ability to listen and advise his colleagues make him a trusted leader.

While I was working on these remarks, Mr. Speaker, I called my good friend, Wright Cox, who is also the Chairman of the Collierville school board, about how he would sum up Stan Joyner's tenure in Collierville. This is what Wright Cox told me: Stan led from the front. He always advocated for Collierville. Most importantly, he always fought for the needs of Collierville. In my opinion, Stan filled the job description flawlessly as mayor of Collierville.

I think Wright Cox summed it up perfectly.

Beyond his work in the public sphere, Mayor Joyner is a man of deep faith and personal integrity. His strong spirit has guided him as a Sunday school teacher in his community.

Stan's dedication to his family is equally strong. He and his wife, Linda, have been married for over 48 years. Together, they have three children and are the grandparents of eight grandchildren.

As he steps down after a distinguished public service career on December 18, in about 2 weeks, Collierville is certainly a better place to live because of Stan Joyner's service.

Roberta and I congratulate Stan and Linda on a job well done. We all wish them the very best in the next chapter of their lives.

HONORING ROBERT "BOB" MYLES HERTZBERG

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifelong community leader, a relentless advocate, an effective elected official, a mentor, and a genuine good friend. I rise to honor and celebrate the contributions of Robert "Bob" Myles Hertzberg.

Bob Hertzberg has dedicated decades of service to the good people of the San Fernando Valley, the city of Los Angeles, and the great State of California.

For those who know him best, they would describe Bob as a force of nature, a fearless champion for good. One of Harrison Hertzberg's five sons, Bob was born in the city of Los Angeles and grew up in Benedict Canyon on the city's west side.

His family would later move eastward to California's desert town of

Palm Springs, where Bob graduated from Palm Springs High School. Bob Hertzberg got a taste of the political bug very early on in life. His first job in politics was at the age of 19 where he served as a driver for then State Senator Mervyn Dymally, who would later become California's Lieutenant Governor in 1974.

The young Bob Hertzberg forged relationships and supported many of the up-and-coming Latino leaders on the east side of Los Angeles, people like Gloria Molina, Xavier Becerra, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Antonio Villaraigosa, and many other Latino leaders.

In 1978, Bob graduated magna cum laude from the University of Redlands with a bachelor of arts degree in history and English. Choosing to follow his father's career path, Bob earned his juris doctorate from the University of California, Hastings College of Law in the 1979.

After graduating law school, he spent some formidable years working as an associate at a prestigious law firm and later would join his father, Harrison, to form the Hertzberg & Hertzberg law firm.

In 1996, Bob Hertzberg ran for the California State Assembly and won that election in the 40th District in the San Fernando Valley.

Bob and I were elected in 1996 and became colleagues. Bob and I represented neighboring districts and had worked together on common regional goals. Bob and I ran for California State Assembly speaker, and Bob won that election, handily by the way. On April 30, 2000, he was unanimously elected by a voice vote as the 64th speaker of the California State Assembly.

In the aftermath of the speaker election, instead of holding a grudge toward me, I witnessed firsthand the character of Bob Hertzberg. Much to my surprise at the time, Speaker Hertzberg insisted that I serve on the powerful and coveted position as chairman of the budget committee. Who does that? That is the character of Bob Hertzberg.

Bob was able to be an effective speaker. He modernized the institution. He made sure the budget of California reflected our values. He prioritized healthcare for children and seniors.

He allocated resources for the modernization of California's public education systems, and he delivered on transportation projects and increased parks and recreation spaces across the State, essentially transforming and improving lives of millions of Californians for generations to come.

Bob Hertzberg served the full limit of three terms in the California State Assembly. After his tenure as speaker, Hertzberg set out to be a clean energy entrepreneur. Bob helped create one of the first solar manufacturing companies in Los Angeles and co-launched a company that produced inexpensive, lightweight solar panels for use around the world.

In recognition of his clean energy efforts in Rwanda, he received the World