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# Congressional Record

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

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WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2024

No. 196

## Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 12 p.m.

## House of Representatives

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2024

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

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
December 31, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable PATRICK T. McHENRY 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:

This is the day, the year, You, O Lord, have made. As we consider all that has taken place, may we find reason to rejoice and be glad, for by Your grace, You have fulfilled Your promises and guided us on the paths toward our future.

As we reflect on the year that has been 2024, we are keen to acknowledge that each moment has been a gift that You desired us to enjoy. Each challenge was an opportunity, which You strengthened us to overcome. Each disappointment was a siren to return to faith in Your mercy. Each encounter was a graced gift given that we would share the unconditional love You offer us all.

Such a graced gift was the life and witness of former President Carter, in

whom we have borne testimony to what it means to be a faithful steward of Your bounty, a just arbiter of Your commandments, a compassionate witness to Your kindness, and a worthy disciple to Your Gospel of love.

We give You our gratitude for Your abiding presence in the midst of all our hopes and fears of this past year, and we offer our future to Your keeping, praying in the strength of Your name. 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.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES, Democratic Leader:

DECEMBER 19, 2024.

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

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: Pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), as amended, I am pleased to appoint the following individual to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission effective January 1, 2025: Ms. Reva B. Price of Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Thank you for your attention to this appointment.

Sincerely,

HAKEEM JEFFRIES,  
Democratic Leader.

### RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 30, 2024.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER, I hereby submit my resignation from the U.S. House of Representatives effective at 11:59 p.m. on December 31st, 2024. I will take my oath of office to serve as North Carolina Attorney General on January 1st, 2025.

It has been an honor to represent the people of North Carolina's 14th Congressional District.

Sincerely,

JEFF JACKSON,  
Member of Congress.

□ 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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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 30, 2024.

Hon. ROY COOPER,  
Governor of North Carolina,  
Raleigh, NC.

DEAR GOVERNOR COOPER, I hereby submit my resignation from the U.S. House of Representatives effective at 11:59 p.m. on December 31st, 2024. I will take my oath of office to serve as North Carolina Attorney General on January 1st, 2025.

It has been an honor to represent the people of North Carolina's 14th Congressional District.

Sincerely,

JEFF JACKSON,  
Member of Congress.

# COMMUNICATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the President of the United States:

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, DC, December 30, 2024.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Attached is a message informing the Congress of the death of James Earl Carter, Jr., the thirty-ninth President of the United States.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

# INFORMING CONGRESS OF THE DEATH OF JAMES EARL CARTER, JR., THE 39TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

By this Message, I officially inform you of the death of James Earl Carter, Jr., the thirty-ninth President of the United States.

President Carter was a man of character, courage, and compassion, whose lifetime of service defined him as one of the most influential statesmen in our history. He embodied the very best of America: A humble servant of God and the people. A heroic champion of global peace and human rights, and an honorable leader whose moral clarity and hopeful vision lifted our Nation and changed our world.

The son of a farmer and a nurse, President Carter's remarkable career in public service began in 1943 as a cadet at the United States Naval Academy. He later served in both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets before becoming a decorated lieutenant, and being selected to join the elite nuclear submarine program.

After his father died, he shifted from active duty to the Navy Reserve and returned home to Plains, Georgia, to help manage his family's peanut farm. He worked hard stewarding the land while leading his community as a

church deacon, Sunday school teacher, and board member of a hospital and library. His deep faith inspired a passion for public service that led him to be elected State Senator, Georgia's 76th Governor, and ultimately President of the United States.

As President, he understood that Government must be as good as its people—and his faith in the people was boundless just as his belief in America was limitless and his hope for our common future was perennial.

With President Carter's leadership, the modern Department of Education and the Department of Energy were created. He championed conservation and his commitment to a more just world was at the heart of his foreign policy, leading on nuclear nonproliferation, signing the Panama Canal treaties, and mediating the historic 1978 Camp David Accords. His partnership with Vice President Walter Mondale is one that future administrations strived to achieve.

Following his Presidency, President Carter advanced an agenda that elevated the least among us. Guided by an unwavering belief in the power of human goodness and the God-given dignity of every human being, he worked tirelessly around the globe to broker peace; eradicate disease; house the homeless; and protect human rights, freedom, and democracy.

Through his extraordinary moral leadership, President Carter lived a noble life full of meaning and purpose. And as a trusted spiritual leader, he shepherded people through seasons of pain and joy, inspiring them through the power of his example and healing them through the power of his guidance.

As we mourn the loss of President Carter, we hold the memory of his beloved Rosalynn, his wife of over 77 Years, close in our hearts. Exemplifying hope, warmth, and service, she and her husband inspired the Nation. The love Rosalynn and President Carter shared is the definition of partnership, and their devotion to public service is the definition of patriotism.

May President Carter's memory continue to be a light pointing us forward. May we continue to be guided by his spirit in our Nation and in our world.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 30, 2024.

# EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND REGRET AND SORROW OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF JAMES EARL CARTER, JR., THIRTY-NINTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following privileged resolution (H. Res. 1626).

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1626

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives has learned with profound regret and

sorrow of the death of James Earl Carter, Jr., thirty-ninth President of the United States of America.

*Resolved*, That the House tenders its deep sympathy to the members of the family of the former President in their bereavement.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy of the same to the family of the former President.

*Resolved*, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the former President.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resolution was agreed to.

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

# BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kevin F. McCumber, Acting Clerk of the House, reported that on December 27, 2024, the following bills were presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.R. 82. To amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

H.R. 9487. To amend the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 to authorize the Legislative Counsel of the House of Representatives to designate more than one of the attorneys of the Office of the Legislative Counsel as a Deputy Legislative Counsel, and for other purposes.

H.R. 670. To amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a clearinghouse on intellectual disabilities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9544. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 340 South Loudon Avenue in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "United States Representative Elijah E. Cummings Post Office Building".

H.R. 1318. To authorize the location of a monument on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the women's suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9549. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 125 South 1st Avenue in Hillsboro, Oregon, as the "Elizabeth Furse Post Office Building".

H.R. 1555. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2300 Sylvan Avenue in Modesto, California, as the "Corporal Michael D. Anderson Jr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 9580. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2777 Brentwood Road in Raleigh, North Carolina, as the "Millie Dunn Veasey Post Office".

H.R. 1823. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 207 East Fort Dade Avenue in Brooksville, Florida, as the "Specialist Justin Dean Coleman Memorial Post Office Building".

H.R. 9592. To amend title 44, United States Code, to modernize the Federal Register, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2997. To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to Mesa County, Colorado, certain Federal land in Colorado, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9600. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 119 Main Street in Plains, Georgia, as the "Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Post Office".

H.R. 3354. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 North Hatcher Avenue in Purcellville, Virginia, as the "Secretary of State Madeleine Albright Post Office Building".