

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 16 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LOUDERMILK) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our teacher, Lord, and friend, we pray that we would walk where You lead us this day. Open our eyes to see Your guidance, to look at each encounter, regard each situation with Your eyes.

Open our ears to Your instruction, to receive every word spoken, every concern voiced, and hear as You would hear.

Open our hearts to Your wisdom, to understand the problems, to discern the solutions, and to respond to each one as You would respond.

May the perceptions of our world, the reception of those whom we meet, and the interpretation of the work You would have us do reflect that we are willing and open to learn the unforced rhythms of grace which You, Yourself, have taught each one of us.

In Your divine friendship, abide with us. We rejoice that You have called us friends and have made Yourself and Your will known to us in the name of which we offer this prayer.

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 gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FLOOD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FLOOD 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.

REPUBLICANS WILL ENFORCE BORDER SECURITY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, according to a report released by the House Committee on Homeland Security, more than 125,000 illegal alien crossings took place in October alone, bringing the total number of illegal alien crossings since Biden-Harris of over 11 million nationwide, with Speaker MIKE JOHNSON warning of over 16 million illegal aliens.

Dangerously, these catastrophic border crossing figures do not account for the illegal got-aways, including drug smugglers and identified terrorists who threaten every American family.

Sadly, with the duplicitous policies of Biden-Harris, among those illegal transgressors are unaccompanied children who are suffering at the hands of cartel smugglers.

Additionally, after meeting with President Donald Trump this weekend on Sunday at Mar-a-Lago, I know he is committed to securing the borders and protecting families and making America great again.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent, as warned by the FBI. Trump will reinstitute existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

MEAN, CRUEL BULLYING TACTIC

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, it is no surprise that the Republican Party of Matt Gaetz and former GOP Speaker Dennis Hastert is the same party that is obsessed with passing a bill today which I call the child predator empowerment act.

Republicans are passing a bill that allows any adult in a school to inspect the genitals of our kids before they are allowed to play sports. That is right, Republicans' creepy, weird obsession with your kids' private parts now means they are passing bills that let them inspect what is in your kids' pants.

What is wrong with them? As a parent, I find this terrifying and downright sick. Let me be clear, every kid should be able to play sports, and this bill is just a mean, cruel bullying tactic.

My Republican colleagues are obsessed with passing a bill to protect predators. How about they pass a bill to protect jobs or pass a bill to fight wildfires or lower grocery prices? No,

no, no, Republicans are weirdly obsessed with talking about transgender people and using that as an excuse to protect and even empower child predators.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that we all know the reason why.

HONORING NANCY AND JIM THOMPSON

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two stalwarts of community service in Sarpy County, Nebraska: Nancy and Jim Thompson.

Nancy and Jim have dedicated their lives to giving back to Nebraska throughout their nearly five-and-a-half decades of marriage.

As educators, they played key roles in forming the Papillion La Vista School Foundation, helping charter it nearly 40 years ago.

Their commitment to public service is equally impressive. Nancy and Jim were both elected to local and county office. Nancy had the distinction of being the first woman elected to the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners, and she later served as a State senator in our unicameral from 1997 to 2006, where she and I served briefly together.

This week, their lifelong dedication, especially to Nebraska's children, will be honored with the 2025 Reflection Award from the Midlands Community Foundation.

On behalf of Nebraska's First District, congratulations to both Nancy and Jim. I thank them for their remarkable service.

HONORING JOHN WILLIS MENARD

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

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the profound legacy of Mr. John Willis Menard, who in 1868 became the first African American elected to Congress.

Even after winning 64 percent of the vote, Members of this body denied him the rightful opportunity to take his seat by a vote of 57-130. Nevertheless, Mr. Menard bravely defended his right to represent the people of Louisiana and became the first African American to speak on this floor. His fight for representation, even when denied his dignity and his seat, paved the way for people like me.

While in 1868 there was not a single African American in Congress, today there are 67 African Americans serving in the 119th Congress, a record number, largely due in part to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and heroes like John Willis Menard.

WOMEN'S SPORTS ARE UNDER THREAT

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, we are well aware that women's sports are under threat, and it is high time we actually finish the job and take a stand against the threat against them.

I am very happy to partner with Mr. STEUBE once again in supporting his bill, the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act, which is about fairness and ensuring that female athletes have the opportunity to compete on a level playing field, on their own playing field.

Title IX was designed to give women and girls equal opportunities in sports. Biological males competing on those same fields with them undermines that intent and puts these athletes at a disadvantage and a lot of discomfort.

This isn't about being exclusionary. It is really recognizing biological realities and protecting the integrity of women's and girls' sports. Female athletes should not have to compete against those with inherent physical advantages.

This bill ensures that women can continue to compete fairly, earn scholarships, earn medals, and achieve their athletic goals without being sidelined by unfair competition. We must protect these opportunities and rights.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Steube bill and ensure that in the future women's sports remain fair and competitive, especially for women. Misguided policies erase what has been built for female athletes all this time.

MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION URGED FOR CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

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

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, my heart goes out to all the Angelenos who have been affected by the wildfires in Los Angeles County. It has been heartbreaking to learn of those who lost their lives and to witness the devastation of entire neighborhoods.

I also want to extend my gratitude to the firefighters, first responders, and local officials who have been working tirelessly around the clock to combat the wildfires. Their heroism and bravery has been inspiring. I know that because of their efforts, these wildfires will soon be contained. There is no doubt that their swift action saved lives.

I join Senators PADILLA, SCHIFF, and 46 of my Democratic and Republican colleagues urging President Biden to grant Governor Gavin Newsom's request for a major disaster declaration.

Thankfully, the President approved the Governor's request, and California

has secured multiple fire management assistance grants from FEMA to ensure vital resources are available for local, State, and Tribal agencies. However, these grants are not enough.

I am also appalled by the recent calls from the other side to condition aid on a debt limit deal. Now is not the time to politicize this crisis.

I strongly urge House leadership to immediately bring a supplemental spending bill to California's efforts to combat this fire and make Angelenos whole again.

HONORING INGENUITY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

(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 today to recognize the inspiring work being done by the Rochester Museum & Science Center, led by curator Jamie Jacobs, to create a new permanent educational exhibit that showcases contemporary indigenous artists inspired by their ancestors.

This exhibit, titled: "Hodinosyo:nih Continuity/Innovation/Resilience," honors the ingenuity of the indigenous people of North America and explores the role museums have played in preserving indigenous cultural heritage.

At the heart of the remarkable project is curator Jamie Jacobs of the Tonawanda Seneca Nation. His leadership has honored the enduring legacy of the Hodinosyo:nih people and created a space for learning, reflection, and reconnection.

The community of Rochester, New York, celebrates this incredible achievement and extends our deepest gratitude to the Rochester Museum & Science Center and Jamie Jacobs for sharing these essential stories.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 38

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS: Ms. Maloy (to rank immediately after Mr. Strong).

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE: Mr. Wilson of South Carolina, Ms. Foxx, Mr. Thompson of Pennsylvania, Mr. Grothman, Ms. Stefanik, Mr. Allen, Mr. Comer, Mr. Owens, Mrs. McClain, Mrs. Miller of Illinois, Ms. Letlow, Mr. Kiley of California, Mrs. Houchin, Mr. Rulli, Mr. Onder, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Baumgartner, Mr. Harris of North Carolina, Mr. Messmer.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY: Mr. McCaul, Mr. Higgins of Louisiana, Mr. Guest, Mr. Gimenez, Mr. Pfluger, Mr. Garbarino,

Ms. Greene of Georgia, Mr. Tony Gonzales of Texas, Mr. Luttrell, Mr. Strong, Mr. Brecheen, Mr. Crane, Mr. Ogles, Mrs. Biggs of South Carolina, Mr. Evans of Colorado, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Knott.

COMMITTEE ON RULES: Ms. Foxx, Chair, Mrs. Fischbach, Mr. Norman, Mr. Roy, Mrs. Houchin, Mr. Langworthy, Mr. Austin Scott of Georgia, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Jack.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Mr. Stauber, Mr. Meuser, Ms. Van Duyne, Mr. Ellzey, Mr. Alford, Mr. LaLota, Mr. Finstad, Mr. Wied, Mr. Bresnahan, Mr. Jack, Mr. Downing, Mrs. King-Hinds, Mr. Schmidt.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE: Mr. Crawford, Mr. Webster of Florida, Mr. Massie, Mr. Perry, Mr. Babin, Mr. Rouzer, Mr. Bost, Mr. LaMalfa, Mr. Westerman, Mr. Mast, Mr. Stauber, Mr. Burchett, Mr. Johnson of South Dakota, Mr. Van Drew, Mr. Nehls, Mr. Mann, Mr. Owens, Mr. Burlison, Mr. Collins, Mr. Ezell, Mr. Kiley of California, Mr. Fong, Mr. Wied, Mr. Barrett, Mr. Begich, Mr. Bresnahan, Mr. Hurd of Colorado, Mr. Shreve, Mr. McDowell, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Knott, Mrs. King-Hinds, Mr. Kennedy of Utah, Mr. Onder.

Mr. FLOOD (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RANKING A MEMBER ON A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 39

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, ranked on the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS: Ms. Maloy (to rank immediately after Mr. Strong).

Mr. FLOOD (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nebraska?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows: