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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 7, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable NICHOLAS J. BEGICH III 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 3, 2025, 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.

SUPPORTING REVERSAL OF CALIFORNIA EV MANDATE

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week I introduced legislation to reverse the out-of-touch California EV mandate that the Biden administration approved with one foot already out the door.

This de facto ban on internal combustion engines not only stifles innovation and blocks consumer choice for the American people, but it also

threatens 40 percent of the auto market including the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

I have been leading this fight since I arrived in Congress to protect consumer choice and to foster further innovation in the auto industry. With the support of President Trump and Energy and Commerce Chairman BRETT GUTHRIE, I am confident that this legislation will swiftly pass and be signed into law.

ENCOURAGING INNOVATION THROUGH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BASE

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at the beginning of this term, President Trump announced an aggressive artificial intelligence plan to keep the U.S. competitive with China.

Just 3 months later, we are already seeing this plan in action through the investment of billions of dollars to revitalize the former Homer City Generating Station located in Pennsylvania.

Projects like this and the Three Mile Island nuclear plant's revitalization not only bring revenue in for local economies, it employs hardworking Americans. It also helps our Nation stay competitive with China in the development of artificial intelligence.

As President Trump builds up our artificial intelligence base, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania stands ready to fulfill its necessary energy needs.

PROTECTING OUR BORDER

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, since President Trump was sworn into office, the daily number of border crossings has plummeted to record lows. Currently, our Border Patrol agents are making fewer than 50 arrests per day at the U.S.-Mexico border. Under President Biden, Border Patrol was averaging more than 1,000 arrests a day.

President Trump has promised to secure our border and make our communities safer by removing dangerous criminals from our streets. Just 3 months into his term, the results of

these policies truly speak for themselves: Promises made, promises kept.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BOYD "BUZZ" WAGNER

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II ace pilot and Johnstown native, Lieutenant Colonel Boyd "Buzz" Wagner.

Buzz completed his flight training in 1938 before he was assigned to the Philippines. When Japanese forces attacked the Philippines in December of 1941, Buzz quickly shot down five Japanese planes, making him the first ace pilot of World War II.

By April of the following year, Buzz was credited with eight air-to-air kills, as well as numerous successful bombing runs on Japanese airfields, one of which earned him the Distinguished Service Cross citation.

Though he tragically passed away in November of 1942 during a training flight in Alabama, Buzz's legacy lives on as an inspiration to all aspiring aviators.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA FORWARD THOMAS HAUGH

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate University of Florida forward and New Oxford, Pennsylvania, native Thomas Haugh who helped lead the Florida Gators to a Final Four victory, clinching their spot in the national championship game. Thomas played a critical role in the semifinal game, recording 12 points, 7 rebounds, and 2 blocks.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th District, I congratulate Thomas and his parents, Jennifer and Ryan, on this incredible victory. I wish the best of luck to Thomas and the entire Florida Gators team in the national championship game tonight.

HONORING DAVID GREENWOOD

(Mr. RYAN of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

□ 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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Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. David Greenwood, a beloved member of our Hudson Valley community, who passed away recently at his home in Millbrook, New York.

A lifelong lover of the arts, David graduated from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo with an art history degree before pursuing his master's back at home at SUNY New Paltz where he was ultimately named an outstanding alumnus.

He and his wife, Nan, married in his ancestral home in Yorkshire in 1974 while David was working as an art history teacher. He was later named supervisor of the entire K-12 arts program, a position which he held until his retirement in 2004.

Coming back home to our community in the Hudson Valley, he contributed so much to so many. One of David's proudest accomplishments was an annual calendar project in Millbrook, celebrating the town's people, places, and events throughout history, which in 2022 earned him the Edmund J. Winslow Local Government Historian Award of Excellence.

Our community is a better place because of the years of service and spirit that David Greenwood brought to the Hudson Valley. We thank David, and our thoughts are with his family.

CONGRATULATING MAUREEN HALAHAN

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a true public servant, Maureen Halahan, on her retirement from leadership of the Orange County Partnership.

As CEO of the partnership for 24 years, Maureen has been a leader in helping to grow and diversify our entire Hudson Valley economy. For over two decades, Maureen has helped small and medium businessowners in Orange County finance, grow, and staff their businesses to the immense benefit of our entire Hudson Valley community.

From major infrastructure projects, transformative economic development projects creating hundreds and thousands of jobs, investing in our workforce, and mentoring the rising next generation of business leaders, Maureen's impact has been tremendous.

To me, Maureen has been such a counselor and adviser on important economic development and community issues. While we will miss Maureen greatly, we wish her all the best as she moves into this next chapter. We look forward to continuing to foster our relationship with the partnership's new CEO, Mr. Conor Eckert.

Maureen's service to our community made a tremendous impact. We thank her and are forever grateful.

RECOGNIZING JAMES GAGLIANO

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James Gagliano, a friend, a fellow West Point graduate, a veteran, and a true public servant to the Hudson Valley and to our Nation.

Most recently as mayor of the village of Cornwall-on-Hudson, James put his decades of experience in the military

and law enforcement community to use in protecting his own community. In particular, he proudly served 25 years in the FBI and protected our State and our Nation.

As a Representative for the Hudson Valley, I can personally attest to the fact that having good, smart, dedicated, patriotic, locally elected officials, regardless of political party, truly makes all the difference when it comes to getting stuff done and delivering for our community.

That was always the case with Mayor Gagliano, a tireless partner in making our community more affordable, safe, and free. We partnered closely on bringing funding, and ultimately executing critical water and infrastructure projects, public safety projects, and first responder and EMS investment.

He was always the first with a smile and a joke. Even though we don't agree about baseball teams, I think we agree on pretty much everything else, and I appreciate his leadership. Everyone in his community and in the Hudson Valley knows that Cornwall is a better place following his leadership as mayor of the village.

While we wish him the best in his new chapter, I will truly miss working with him and marching in the Fourth of July parade with him. I am sure I will see him at Army football games soon.

RECOGNIZING THE USS IOWA

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS of Iowa was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commissioning of the USS *Iowa*, the Navy's newest Virginia-class, nuclear-powered, fast-attack submarine.

I had the honor this weekend to attend the ceremony at Naval Submarine Base New London, alongside Governor Kim Reynolds, veterans, and the families of over 140 crew members.

It was a powerful moment marking the beginning of a new era. The USS *Iowa* is the third naval vessel to bear that name following a battleship that served with distinction in World War II, both in the Atlantic and the Pacific, in the Korean war and in the Gulf. That proud legacy now continues beneath the sea. The legacy of the *Gray Ghost* and the new USS *Iowa* nuclear-class submarine begins its mission.

A new legend for the USS *Iowa* began on Saturday. It is indefatigable. It is undeterred. It is undetected, and it is unstoppable.

To the crew, I thank them for their service and remember to be Iowa nice to one another. To all those who may cross her path and our adversaries, fear the Ghost.

ADDRESSING UNWORKABLE FUNDING REDUCTIONS IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET

(Ms. MORRISON of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with a letter. This is a letter from Republican State legislators from my home State of Minnesota, addressed to President Trump and Republicans in Congress. Please listen carefully.

Dear Mr. President, Congressman Emmer, Congressman Finstad, Congresswoman Fischbach, Congressman Stauber, and Ms. Carlton, Minnesota has been a leader in providing access to care and containing costs and now stands vulnerable to unworkable funding reductions with some of what is being proposed in the Federal budget.

A move to a per capita cap or block grant program will be workable if the reduction is modest, manageable, and accompanied by extreme flexibility. Too deep of a cut is unmanageable in any instance.

Innovation is occurring in Minnesota within the current financing and waiver structure. We are moving people with disabilities into greater independence. Massive Medicaid reductions could punish Minnesota for being such a strong leader in greater efficiencies and better outcomes. It would devastate the already lean areas of service we have been working to make more efficient for many years.

As Republican leaders in Minnesota, we have been partners for designing a State Health and Human Services system that meets the needs of our great State.

Just to emphasize what you already know, Medicaid includes services and care for the seniors and those with disabilities, not just healthcare for the poor. Additionally, nearly 50 percent of all Medicaid enrollees are children.

Given some of the large numbers coming out of Washington, we are concerned that there is no practical way to accommodate some of the proposed massive reductions and still provide the kind of care these vulnerable people require.

Drastic reductions to Medicaid funding have the potential to impact the 1.4 million people we serve and place incredible pressure on our overall State budget.

□ 1215

There are no other sources to make up the lost Federal share beyond severely impacting the seniors and those with disabilities who we serve.

This is contrary to how we Republicans respect the aged and the vulnerable.

Deep reductions beyond what we can absorb will also put a major strain on the State's ability to support our county-based infrastructure. In our county-based service model, via the property tax, counties already pay very significant shares of human services costs, including child protection, waiver management, chemical dependency, mental health, and State facility stays, and have little capacity to absorb any significant additional cost.

The only choices available are being forced to raise local property taxes drastically or close services.

Finally, healthcare is a major employer in rural Minnesota. Reductions in already-too-low reimbursement rates would not only limit access but would also reduce pay and services, hugely impacting rural economies and the rapidly growing aging population in greater Minnesota.