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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

Pastor Eli Lara, New Life Family Church, McAllen, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we pause in this moment to acknowledge Your presence and to seek Your blessing in this House. Grant each Member wisdom to discern the greater good, courage to act with integrity, and humility to listen with an open heart.

In these Halls of government, remind us that leadership is a trust and service a sacred duty. Fill this Chamber with a spirit of cooperation and purpose.

In moments of challenge, grant perseverance. In moments of discord, grant understanding. This House needs understanding, Lord, every day. Remind us that the privilege to serve is also a call to integrity, accountability, and grace.

We seek Your guidance as this House begins its work. Grant each Member wisdom beyond our own, compassion that rises above division, and strength to pursue what is good and just for all people.

Bless the families and communities our Representatives serve. Strengthen their resolve to uphold the values of liberty, equality, and peace.

I ask this in Your mighty name.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) come for-

ward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CORREA 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.

### WELCOMING PASTOR ELI LARA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas). Without objection, Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas was recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give a heartfelt welcome to Pastor Eli Lara of McAllen, Texas, as our guest chaplain this morning. It is a special honor to introduce not only a respected pastor from my community but also a mentor and a friend.

Pastor Lara was raised in a family of ministers and always had a desire to serve others through faith, even from a very young age. He began his ministry in Florida before returning to south Texas to study theology.

Following his studies, the Lord called him to begin a small Bible study, which over the years grew into New Life Family Church, where he now serves as the lead pastor.

Pastor Lara is a true man of faith and a leader who has inspired many. Through his preaching at schools, conferences, and camps nationwide, he has impacted countless lives while leading them to Christ.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Pastor Lara for continuing to bless our lives. We are so blessed to have him open today's session in prayer.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### HONORING THE CAREER OF CAPTAIN CHARLES "CHIP" LEMON

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 31-year career of my friend, Captain Charles "Chip" Lemon, and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement from the Minnesota State Patrol.

Chip, a native of Duluth, Minnesota, was inspired to pursue a career in law enforcement after seeing the positive impact that his uncles and older brother had in their respective careers.

Chip knew that he wanted to serve a bigger purpose than self, which is why he joined the Minnesota State Patrol in 1994. During his 31 years on the job, Chip served in many leadership roles and retired proudly as a captain.

While working for the State patrol, Chip often came to the aid of folks involved in car crashes, and he often felt the significance of helping people who were experiencing their worst day.

As a fellow law enforcement officer, I know that our law enforcement communities have been under attack in recent years, but Chip never wavered under pressure.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Chip Lemon my friend, and the State of Minnesota thanks him for his decades of service.

I wish him a happy retirement spent with his lovely wife, Rhonda, and their five children.

### CUTTING LIFELINE OF INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

(Ms. McBRIDE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. McBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn this administration's harmful and illegal efforts to gut

☐ 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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the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Let's be clear. This is a direct attack on rural families, veterans, caregivers, and children, including thousands of Delawareans who rely on libraries not just for books but for help with job applications, disability forms, and housing assistance.

In Dover, librarians are helping my neighbors navigate Social Security delays. In Lewes, they are supporting unhoused jobseekers. In Harrington, they are guiding caregivers through pages of red tape just to access basic support.

This isn't just morally wrong. It is a violation of the law. Congress appropriated these funds. This administration is not only defunding vital community programs. It is defying the will of the American people.

With just \$1.93 million per year, Delaware libraries are able to preserve our history, strengthen our workforce, and meet people where they are to deliver critical services. Cutting this lifeline isn't efficiency. It is cruelty.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the administration to reverse course, and I stand with my colleagues in demanding full funding for the services our communities need and deserve.

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#### RECOGNIZING JUNIOR R. "SKIP" BAKER

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Junior R. "Skip" Baker for an incredible 70 years of service to the Genesee Township Volunteer Fire Department.

In 1955, Skip joined the Genesee Township Volunteer Fire Department and has been a steady presence through decades of change. He served as fire police, EMT, and fire warden for 25 years. He even completed EMT training alongside his late wife, Dorothy, and son Bill.

His sons, Bill and Steve, have both held leadership roles, and now his grandson, Christopher, continues the Baker legacy. Skip has driven nearly every apparatus the department has owned and still runs the pumper and tanker with skill.

Skip played a major role in planning the current fire station, saving the department tens of thousands of dollars through smart cost cutting.

Skip has been on the front lines of major incidents, from the Kane tornado to floods, barn fires, and even a military plane crash.

At age 94, he remains calm, capable, and committed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Skip for his lifetime of service and the integral role he has played in ensuring his community's safety.

#### DISTRICT WORK PERIOD REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during this past district work period, I met with seniors across my district who are worried about losing the lifelines they depend on: Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare.

At one event with our seniors, a Social Security worker told us that wait times are exploding. He said that staff are being watched and pushed to quit every single day. In some cities, offices are even closing.

These are the people who make sure the checks that our seniors depend on go out. Trump and Elon Musk want them to quit.

The Social Security worker told us he felt that he had failed the American people. Let's be clear: He didn't fail us. The Republicans did.

That is why I have been out there raising the alarm. Seniors and their families deserve what is coming. Seniors built this country. They paid in, showed up, and earned these benefits.

If Republicans think they can slash these lifelines without a fight, they are dead wrong. We put seniors over billionaires.

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#### SPECIAL OLYMPICS INDIANA YOUTH BASKETBALL TOUR- NAMENT PRIDE

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

Mr. SHREVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hundreds of young Hoosiers who just participated in our annual Special Olympics Indiana Youth Basketball Tournament.

Basketball is a beloved tradition in my Hoosier State, and this tournament is amongst the largest in North America. It has been hosted at the University of Indianapolis, just 2 miles from my home, since 2010.

This year's event brought together athletes from across our State to compete in five-on-five, three-on-three, and individual basketball skill competitions.

Special Olympics Indiana transforms young lives through the power of sports, breaking down barriers while building up kids with intellectual disabilities. It provides 19,000 Hoosier youth an opportunity to fulfill their sporting ambitions, all with the support of 10,000 volunteers and not one red cent of taxpayer money.

These special young athletes embody the spirit of perseverance on the court and in their lives. They have bright futures ahead of them, and we are proud.

#### 100 DAYS OF CHAOS, CRUELTY, AND LAWLESSNESS UNDER THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

(Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week marked a stunning milestone: 100 days of chaos, cruelty, and lawlessness under the Trump administration. We see it in our economy, in our homes, and in our relationships abroad.

Just 100 days ago, President Trump inherited a strong economy, yet our economy shrank in the first 3 months of this year. He imposed punishing tariffs, then he didn't, wiping out \$11 trillion in wealth in 11 weeks. The price of gas, eggs, and other groceries are still too high.

The President handed an unelected, unqualified billionaire, Elon Musk, unfettered access to private data and indiscriminately fired devoted civil servants. Services at Social Security and IRS have been slowed in the aftermath.

Because the President has aligned himself with dictators like Putin, our allies across the globe are now openly admitting they can't trust us.

This is not good governance. It is not reform.

Mr. Speaker, history will not be kind to those who enable this President through words or through their appalling silence.

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#### REINTRODUCTION OF THE GRAY WOLF

(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, in northeast California, as in other parts of the country, we are seeing an introduction of a wolf population that is devastating not only to the beef industry and the at least 200 spring calves but also to the rest of the wildlife in the neighborhood.

Places like Sierra County, Siskiyou County, Modoc County, Lassen County, and Plumas County are being devastated by this introduction of the gray wolf.

This is somehow dressed up under the idea that it is endangered, yet the delisting of the gray wolf in the United States has been long sought where we can find tens of thousands of them in upper Midwest States and lower Canada.

Why is it that we have the logic that they have to have one in each county of each State for them to somehow be seen as not endangered anymore?

They are indigenous to a particular area. They do not need to be introduced and devastating the landscape, devastating the people where kids have to sit in cages at bus stops in order to be safe.

Just recently, an elk was chased right up onto the front porch of a constituent in northern California, killed,