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House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

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

Sovereign God, it is You who searches our hearts, examines our minds, and tests our spirits. And in so doing, You know us intimately and completely. You know when we sit down and when we rise. You perceive our thoughts even before we have voiced them. Before a word is on our tongue, You, O Lord, know it completely.

Such knowledge is both overwhelming and comforting. May we come to understand and accept that even knowing us as well as You do, You love us anyway. When we are grieved by various trials, may we trust that You will perceive the genuineness of our faith.

Even gold perishes when it is tested by fire. Remind us again, and all those who are overwhelmed by disaster and destruction, warfare, and ill will, that in Your esteem, we, as Your children, are much more precious than the most valuable treasure on Earth.

In all things, may we find it within our hearts, minds, and spirits, even in the face of the harshest of tests, to bring praise and honor to You and proclaim our belief that Your powerful hand directs our lives.

In Your enduring name we pray.
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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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

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

GEORGIA AND AMERICA ARE VALUED PARTNERS

(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, the nation of Georgia and America are valued partners. Georgians served with Americans in the global war on terrorism. Sadly, Georgia faces a threat to its freedom.

In October, a scheming dictator, backed by war criminal Putin, the Chinese Communist Party, and the Iranian regime, rigged an election.

Salome Zourabichvili, the legitimate President of Georgia, is courageously standing with protesters and peacefully demanding free and fair elections.

I reintroduced the bipartisan MEGOBARI Act to sanction those attacking freedom.

Additionally, there is legislation to prohibit recognizing the illegitimate regime.

I am grateful that at my invitation, President Zourabichvili will attend the inauguration of President Donald Trump.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues.

Open borders for dictators puts 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.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Senator MARCO RUBIO on prevailing at the confirmation hearing yesterday I attended, which was so positively conducted by Chairman JIM RISCH and Ranking Member JEANNE SHAHEEN.

CALIFORNIANS DESERVE THE SAME DISASTER RELIEF WITHOUT ANY POLITICAL STRINGS ATTACHED

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

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deepest sympathies to the residents of Los Angeles County and Ventura County who have been impacted by the devastating wildfires in southern California. I deeply appreciate the firefighters, first responders, and local leaders who have been working tirelessly to battle these fires.

I was proud to join bipartisan Members of the California delegation in urging President Biden to grant a major disaster declaration for our State. These funds are urgently needed to help families that have lost everything in the wake of these wildfires.

I am truly appalled that some in Congress are seeking to impose political conditions on aid for wildfire victims in their time of need. It is cruel, and it is just not right.

What is more, I am here to remind all of my colleagues that California contributes far more in Federal tax revenue than it receives back in spending.

Mr. Speaker, in times of crisis, my home State has always been there to support other States unconditionally. Californians deserve the same disaster

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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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relief without any political strings attached. Time is of the essence.

RECOGNIZING LOCAL BROADCASTING LEGEND KEN THOMAS

(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 recognize the career and contributions of Brainerd, Minnesota, broadcasting legend, Ken Thomas.

Ken's broadcasting journey began in 1978 at the WMIN radio station in Maplewood, Minnesota.

Ken then moved to the Brainerd Lakes area where he spent the next four decades hosting the morning show on WJYY-FM.

Ken has had a number of different morning show partners, but for the past 20 years, he has shared the microphone with his current cohost, Tess Taylor.

Together, Ken and Tess have been the trusted voices that many in the Brainerd area listen to as they enjoy their morning cup of coffee and drive to work.

Ken's joyful and quick-witted commentary even made him a recipient of the National Association of Broadcasters Marconi Radio Award for Small Market Personality of the Year in 2017.

Ken's legacy goes beyond the microphone. He is a longtime supporter of the Brainerd Lakes Area Walk to End Alzheimer's and works as a member of the Sertoma service organization. Additionally, every Thanksgiving, he volunteers to serve meals at the local legion.

As Ken enters retirement, I hope he finds time to enjoy everything he loves about Brainerd, which includes his loving family, his fellow members of The District cover band, Norman's Bait & Tackle Choir, and the tight-knit community he helped shape.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Ken. He will be missed from the airwaves, but he has earned this next chapter.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOSE ADAN TREVINO

(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, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Jose Adan Trevino.

Born in Brownsville, Texas, Adan began his career as a pharmacist in the East End community of Houston in my district, meeting the community's needs while growing his business.

This theme carried throughout his life.

In 1977, he founded KXLN, Houston's first Spanish-language TV station, later becoming Univision Houston, and earning him the title of "Father of Spanish-Language Television."

We helped start the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce together, which

grew to be one of the largest in the country.

He was even named one of the 100 most influential Hispanics in America. Adan's greatest title wasn't media mogul, businessman, or chairman. It was daddy and granddaddy. He adored his daughters, Cynthia and Glorianna, and his grandchildren, Jessica, Lauren, Adam, and Blake. His love for them was his proudest achievement and his most enduring legacy.

Mr. Speaker, we will miss Adan's warmth, his friendship, and his belief in a better tomorrow for all.

NATIONAL MILK DAY

(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 before you today to recognize a special day for our dairy farmers, National Milk Day.

National Milk Day originates back to January 11, 1878, when milk was first delivered in glass bottles in the United States.

Milk is consumed by millions of Americans every year because not only is it delicious but it also provides key nutrients like calcium, potassium, and other vitamins.

This is one of the reasons I am so thankful for the passing of my bill in the 118th Congress, the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2023, which will provide key nutrients to children in schools nationwide.

Milk is also very important to my home State of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania dairy industry alone generates 52,000 jobs and \$14.2 billion in revenue annually in the State.

Furthermore, Pennsylvania is ranked second nationally in number of dairy farms. I am so proud of all that they have accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, as a descendent of a long line of dairy farmers, let's raise a glass in honor of our dairy farmers who work around the clock to bring fresh, nutritious, and delicious milk to our tables every single day.

NO CONDITIONS ON DISASTER AID FOR CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of thousands of California wildfire survivors.

My district knows too well the devastation survivors of the southern California fires are facing. People have lost everything, and not just their homes and their belongings, but family members and friends.

We must bring the full force of the Federal Government to aid these victims, and we must do it without any conditions. Full stop.

We didn't put conditions on our Federal aid when Louisiana was ravaged

by Hurricane Katrina, when communities from Florida and North Carolina were swamped by Hurricane Helene, when Iowa faced destruction from high winds and flooding, when a train derailed in Ohio polluting local waterways and the air, or when Hurricane Harvey hit Texas.

This time should be no different. We are the Congress of the United States of America. Americans are in trouble, and when they need us, we need to be there.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD PULLED BACK ITS CLEAN AIR ACT WAIVER

(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, California had at least one piece of welcome news. The typically out-of-control California Air Resources Board has decided to pull back on some really overreaching truck and train regulations.

CARB, as it is known, an unelected body appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom, has decided to withdraw a Clean Air Act waiver to the EPA for both the Advanced Clean Fleet and In-Use Locomotive Regulation rules.

The Advanced Clean Fleet and locomotive rules were unrealistic from the start. The technology doesn't even exist on a market basis to run these trucks and trains, so maybe California should just be an island unto its own without these delivery devices.

It would have placed an unnecessary financial burden on the businesses, the consumers, and the economy as a whole in my home State.

President Trump has long been outspoken against regulatory overreach such as this. It is encouraging to see California finally getting a clue on that and beginning to follow that kind of thinking.

Governor Newsom's appointees at CARB have been responsible for pushing many of these costly mandates in some of our other States. Even this Congress sometimes looks at emulating those to the detriment of consumers, like taking away their stoves, taking away their cars, the whole works.

Mr. Speaker, it is time they start considering the real-world impact. At least this go around, maybe because of pressure coming from here, they pulled back and got this one right.

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REMEMBERING VINCENT FORT

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

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, Atlanta and the State of Georgia have lost one of our greatest champions. My constituent, State senator, and former minority whip Vincent Fort, passed away