

for personally following up with residents and addressing their concerns. He prioritized transparency, once saying: You don't have to ask me where I stand on issues because I am usually pretty clear about it. I am not going to sit there and obfuscate up there. If I don't like something, I will tell you I don't like something and why.

Bob's memory and legacy will live on through the lives that he touched. Our hearts go out to all of his family. Our prayers go with him as well. May he rest in peace.

COMMEMORATING KOREAN WAR VETERANS  
ARMISTICE DAY

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate Korean War Armistice Day and to honor the millions of servicemembers who fought during the Korean war.

This year marks the 16th anniversary of Proclamation 8399, a proclamation to establish National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day.

I am proud to have introduced legislation in this Congress to help reunify families who remain divided from the war. I look forward to continuing to work to support our veterans.

I thank the Korean American Grassroots Conference and partner organizations like the Council of Korean Americans, the Korea Economic Institute, The Korea Society, the Korean American Institute, and Remember 727 for organizing this week's event.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 35 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

In You, O God, do we trust, for the wisdom You offer is pure. May we also trust You to speak Your wisdom in today's proceedings.

On You, O God, do we depend, for the direction You lead us will enable us to find a way forward in times of discord. May we also depend on You to direct us to bring calm wherever conflict persists.

To You, O God, do we yield our souls and minds, for the plans You have for us are merciful and without partiality. May we yield our whole selves in the course of this day to follow where You will guide us.

Then, may we abstain from our own selfish desires and sow the seeds of

peace, that we would receive the good fruits of Your righteousness at the conclusion of our labors.

In Your eternal and merciful 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 Mississippi (Mr. EZELL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. EZELL 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. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN), the whole number of the House is 431.

SUPPORTING PEACE THROUGH  
STRENGTH

(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, as the senior member of the House Armed Services Committee, an Army veteran myself, and father of four sons who served in the military in the Middle East, I am particularly grateful that House Republicans passed the Defense appropriations bill with the leadership of Chairman MIKE ROGERS.

On behalf of national security for American families, some key provisions are: support for troops and families by delivering a pay raise and improving the quality of life; restoration of combat readiness by funding cutting-edge aircraft, weapons, and modernization; and deterrence of our adversaries with border security and countering the Chinese Communist Party worldwide.

House Republicans are achieving peace through strength, the agenda of President Donald Trump.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin's lies, insulting Trump and mocking Trump, talking lovely as he murders Ukrainian citizens with rocket attacks.

Our sympathy for Rosalie Smith on the passing of her husband, Mayor Pat Smith, of Springdale, South Carolina.

RECOGNIZING TREY CASH

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Trey Cash, the economic development director for Greene and Lenoir Counties, whose leadership secured over 600 acres of prime land for industrial development, paving the way for job growth and investment opportunities in rural North Carolina.

The North Carolina Economic Development Association named Trey the 2025 Emerging Leader of the Year, North Carolina's highest honor for a young economic developer.

Trey is the first recipient of this distinguished award from any county east of I-95. His leadership has enhanced public-private partnerships and advanced workforce readiness.

As a dedicated father, Trey works daily to ensure that his daughter, Celia, and all young people like her have the chance to live the American Dream in eastern North Carolina.

He is tireless in his commitment to keeping young professionals and the next generation in the east.

HONORING ERNESTINE McCAULEY  
DAILEY

(Mr. EZELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Ms. Ernestine McCauley Dailey, a faithful servant and a beloved and proud Mississippian who was called home to her Heavenly Father on June 21, 2025, at the age of 99.

Born in Jasper, Alabama, Ernestine spent over six decades in Gautier, Mississippi, where she lived a life signified by humility, strength, and service.

Ernestine worked at E.R. Moore Garment Company. She became the very first secretary at Gautier Elementary School, and she later served in the vice president's office at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, touching countless lives through her work.

Alongside her beloved husband, Uless, a World War II veteran, Ernestine traveled this great Nation in their motor home, creating memories and spreading joy wherever they went.

At her passing, she was the oldest member of the Gautier First Baptist Church in Gautier, Mississippi, a source of great pride and reflection of her enduring faith. She leaves behind a legacy of love, family, and devotion.

Let us honor Ms. Ernestine today by remembering the values that she cherished: faith, family, and community.

## RESTORE FOOD AID FUNDING

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the 31st time to call on the Trump administration to restore life-saving food aid for malnourished children.

Over the weekend, I had a chance to visit the Edesia Nutrition factory in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, one of two factories in the United States that manufactures this ready-to-use therapeutic food. This is used to treat starving children whose organs have failed and are no longer able to process traditional food to get them back to health.

For years, the United States saved millions of lives with this product, sourced entirely from U.S. farmers and factories, until the Trump administration froze funding.

The time has come for that funding to be restored, as the administration promised they would do, but have not delivered on.

For the 31st time, my message is simple: If you say you will do it, do it. I will keep speaking out every day until the administration honors its word.

Restore the funding.

## ENDING WASTE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS IN CALIFORNIA

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

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, this last week, we won a momentous victory in cutting off further Federal funding for the California high-speed rail disaster. Yet, no sooner had the announcement been made than the Governor of California ran to court to file his latest frivolous lawsuit.

I say "his latest" because it was just a couple of weeks ago that Governor Newsom was unanimously defeated before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on his National Guard lawsuit.

Yet, this frivolous lawsuit is particularly perverse because the Governor is now wasting taxpayer dollars suing so that he is able to continue wasting taxpayer dollars on an epic scale on a project that will go down as the single biggest waste of taxpayer dollars in U.S. history.

The good news is that this lawsuit is going nowhere, and we now have a chance to finally wind this embarrassing project down so that the tax dollars of Californians can go where they are needed: toward fixing our crumbling roads.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1450

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. McDOWELL) at 2 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

## PROTECTING REGULAR ORDER FOR VETERANS ACT OF 2025

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 423) to protect regular order for budgeting for the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 423

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. PROTECTING REGULAR ORDER FOR VETERANS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Protecting Regular Order for Veterans Act of 2025" or the "PRO Veterans Act of 2025".

(b) QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS ON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGETARY SHORTFALLS.—

(1) QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS.—

(A) QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS REQUIRED.—During the first quarter beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act and in each quarter thereafter until the date that is three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress a quarterly briefing, in person, on the budget of the Department of Veterans Affairs and any shortfall the Department may be experiencing.

(B) PLANS.—In any case in which the Secretary informs Congress during a briefing under paragraph (1) that the Department is experiencing a shortfall, the Secretary shall, during such briefing, present the plans of the Secretary to address or mitigate the shortfall.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—

(i) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(B) SHORTFALL.—The term "shortfall", with respect to a fiscal year, means that the amount of appropriations required by the Department of Veterans Affairs for such fiscal year to meet all of the statutory obliga-

tions of the Department during that fiscal year exceeds the amount of appropriations requested for the Department for that fiscal year in the budget of the President submitted pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, for that fiscal year.

(C) LIMITATIONS ON PROVISION OF INCENTIVES FOR CRITICAL SKILLS TO SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE EMPLOYEES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Section 706(d) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(7)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B)(ii), a critical skill incentive may not be provided under paragraph (1) to an employee of the Department employed in a Senior Executive Service position, or a position in another comparable system for senior-level Government employees, as defined by the Secretary, whose position is at the Central Office of the Department, including the Veterans Health Administration, the Veterans Benefits Administration, and the National Cemetery Administration, regardless of the actual location where the employee performs the functions of the position.

"(B)(i) A critical skill incentive provided under paragraph (1) to an employee of the Department employed in a Senior Executive Service position, or a position in another comparable system for senior-level Government employees, as defined by the Secretary, not described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph may only be provided—

"(I) on an individual basis and may not be provided to a group of such employees; and

"(II) upon approval of the following officers or those serving in an acting capacity:

"(aa) The Under Secretary for Benefits, the Under Secretary for Health, or the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs.

"(bb) The Assistant Secretary for Human Resources and Administration.

"(cc) The Director of the Office of Management or the Chief Financial Officer.

"(dd) The Assistant Secretary for Accountability and Whistleblower Protection.

"(ee) The General Counsel.

"(ff) Such other officers as the Secretary determines appropriate.

"(ii) In the case of an employee of the Department employed in a Senior Executive Service position, or a position in another comparable system for senior-level Government employees, as defined by the Secretary, whose position is primarily at the Central Office of the Department, but who performs some portion of the employee's job function at other facilities of the Department, as defined by the Secretary, not at Central Office—

"(I) the employee shall not be considered described in subparagraph (A) with respect to the portion of the employee's job function that is based out of non-Central Office facilities of the Department; and

"(II) any critical skill incentive provided under paragraph (1) to the employee for the portion of the employee's job function that is based out of facilities of the Department other than the Central Office shall be proportionate to the time spent at those Department facilities.

"(C)(i) Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of the Protecting Regular Order for Veterans Act of 2025, and not less frequently than once each year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives an annual report on the employees of the Department employed in a Senior Executive Service position, or a position in another comparable system for senior-level Government employees, as defined by the Secretary, who were provided a critical skill incentive under paragraph (1).