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Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, the eagle will keep flying because they have the most dependable workforce and build the most dependable engines ever assembled in the world. I am proud to have been born and raised in East Hartford, the home and the start of Pratt & Whitney aircraft, the engine company that makes the most dependable engines in the world.

#### HONORING CHUCK CONNER

(Mr. BAIRD of Indiana was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chuck Conner who officially retired on Monday, July 14, after serving as a national agriculture leader since 1997.

A Benton County native and graduate of Purdue University, Chuck Conner served as the president and CEO of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives for over 16 years. From 1997 to 2001, he served as president of the Corn Refiners Association.

He also has a storied career in public service as Deputy Secretary and Acting Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture under President George W. Bush.

Chuck Conner continued his public service as an adviser to U.S. Senator Richard Lugar from Indiana for 17 years.

We are grateful for his decades of service and work to benefit our great agricultural industry. I wish him all the best as he embarks on retirement.

□ 1150

#### HONORING KENT AND ISABELLA CHISM

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kent and Isabella Chism, two outstanding Hoosiers.

Kent is a fifth-generation family farmer in Indiana who focuses on growing corn and soybeans. His wife, Isabella, currently serves as the American Farm Bureau Federation's Women's Leadership Committee chair, and is the former second vice president of the Indiana Farm Bureau.

The Chisms are internationally recognized for their hard work and dedication to promoting America's great agricultural industry. Their family farm has also been a home for workshops, farm visits, and open houses. The Chisms recently received the 2025 Indiana Master Farmers award for their work advocating for agriculture.

Indiana's agricultural industry is better off thanks to the Chisms, who have used their experiences to be prominent voices for agriculture at the State, local, and national levels. I am grateful for their work that has certainly benefited Indiana and our farmers.

#### AMERICAN ENERGY IS DOMINANT AGAIN

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss how the One Big Beautiful

Bill Act makes American energy dominant again by resuming leasing for domestic energy production. This includes onshore and offshore oil and gas leases as well as coal leases.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act strengthens grid reliability and invests in building key energy and critical minerals infrastructure through the Energy Dominance Financing program.

This legislation also finally repeals the Green New Deal subsidies from the Democrats' so-called Inflation Reduction Act, such as the tax credit giveaway for expensive, unreliable electric vehicles.

This historic bill also restores our energy security by starting to refill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which was drained under the previous administration. This big, beautiful bill is a historic win for America's great energy sector that will help reduce energy costs for hardworking families in my district and across the Nation.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

#### PRAYER

Reverend Richard Kunst, St. James Catholic Church, Duluth, Minnesota, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we offer You thanks in giving our Nation the opportunity to self-govern and self-legislate, knowing that all power is a sharing in Your power and also recognizing that You have blessed the United States of America in a way that other peoples can only long for.

May our philosophical and political differences serve only to strengthen who we are as a people rather than cause division and hatred.

We pray for protection of all Members of this body and their staffs that they may continue to carry out the will of the people who elected them.

Finally, for allowing us to enter into our 250th year as a nation, we give thanks to You, Heavenly Father, for all that You have blessed us with. May those blessings continue for many years, and may we, Your people, always be fully aware that You and no other entity are the source of these gifts.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings 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 North Carolina (Mr. HARRIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HARRIS of North 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.

#### WELCOMING REVEREND RICHARD KUNST

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to have my hometown priest open up the House of Representatives this morning, Father Richard Kunst.

Father Richard Kunst has been a priest in the diocese in and around Duluth for 27 years. He is a faithful, faithful servant of our Lord, Jesus Christ, as reflected by his homilies on a daily basis.

Not only is Father Richard Kunst a great friend to our family but to the Catholic family in and around Duluth, Minnesota.

I thank him for traveling all this way from Duluth, Minnesota, to our Nation's Capital to open up the House prayer this morning.

I am truly honored by his opening prayer.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ferrari, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1316. An act to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 relating to licensing transparency.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARIDOPOLOS). The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### HONORING CHASE CHILDERS

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

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, a man who embodied and exemplified the very best of public service and selfless service, Mr. Chase Childers, a husband, father of three, former police officer, and professional baseball player.

Some of us in the Chamber, including myself, have worn the uniform and sworn an oath to protect and serve our communities. We understand the inherent risks, split-second decisions, and unwavering commitment required.

On July 13, while on vacation with his beloved family in South Carolina, Mr. Childers jumped into action to save another family who were caught in a rip current. Mr. Speaker, they were total strangers. They were not his own family but total strangers.

Thanks to the courageous and selfless acts of Mr. Childers, the family of five made it back to the shore safely. Tragically, Mr. Childers did not.

Mr. Childers' heroic actions serve as a reminder that heroism isn't confined to a uniform or a specific profession.

May his memory be a blessing, and may his actions inspire us all to lend a helping hand to other families, friends, neighbors, and, in this case, total strangers.

God bless Mr. Childers and his loved ones. My family and I are praying for his beautiful wife and three children during this very difficult time.

#### TART WARS

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, there is so much upheaval and so much concern that is going on in our country right now—unemployment, Medicaid cuts, all the things that are happening. Yet, in the Virgin Islands this weekend, on my home island, we had our annual Tart Wars.

The Tart Wars brings together the Virgin Islands community to celebrate and showcase our rich culinary traditions, placing fans of pineapple, guava, and coconut tarts in a fierce competition.

Mr. Speaker, coconut tart did win this year. It is not my favorite, but I would have you note that Virgin Islanders, the grand dames of Frederiksted, Claire Roker, Betty Lynch, and even LaVerne "La La" Joseph, are all Team Guava.

#### WELCOMING GRAHAM THOMAS BLACKWELL

(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, on Friday, July 18, 2025, Columbia, South Carolina, was blessed as Leah Grace Denny Blackwell and Matthew Blackwell joyfully welcomed their handsome son, Graham Thomas Blackwell, into the world, a very special gift just 2 days ahead of Leah Grace's own birthday.

Born at Prisma Health Baptist Hospital at 2:03 a.m., weighing 6 pounds, 9 ounces, and measuring 19 inches long, Graham has entered a loving, prominent, and nurturing home.

I am grateful for Leah Grace, who is a dedicated long-term staff member in the Washington office, serving as senior policy adviser, while Matt is a former staff member who is now at Duke Energy.

Graham is blessed to be born into a home that will guide him through a bright and fulfilling future encouraged by his wonderful grandparents, Tony and Beverly Denny and Bart and Paula Blackwell, who are all appreciated as devoted statewide community leaders.

On behalf of my wife, Roxanne, and our entire family and staff, I extend the warmest congratulations to the happy Blackwell family. May the years ahead be filled with joy, love, and blessings.

God bless Graham Thomas Blackwell.

#### TIME TO DELIVER RESULTS FOR AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, Americans expect Congress to complete the basic work of government before leaving town for recess, not the least of which is passing the 12 funding bills for fiscal year 2026. Having passed only two bills, it is absurd that Republicans have decided to pack it up early.

Meanwhile, millions fear what Republican cuts to Medicaid will mean for their families. Shoppers are tightening their belts because of record prices for chicken and beef. Businesses are stymied by President Trump's on-again, off-again tariffs. "Taco or not taco" is the question they are asking.

Why are Republicans rushing to take the break when so many Americans can't even catch a break? Simply put, Republicans are running scared of a titanic Presidential temper tantrum over releasing the Epstein files.

My Democratic colleagues and I are here to work to lower costs and grow our economy, to build healthier and safer communities, and to ensure strong national security and national defense.

I implore my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join us. Let's get back to work and deliver the results that the American people sent us here to achieve.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

□ 1210

#### REMEMBERING THOMAS JOHN "TJ" COSTELLO

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

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of TJ Costello, a leader of the Char-

lotte community, who unexpectedly passed away on July 8, 2025.

Mr. Costello's life was marked by sacrifice and service, first to his country as a marine leading combat operations in Iraq and then to our local community as a business leader and faithful church volunteer.

He also served my district by guiding hundreds of young North Carolinians through the nomination process at the U.S. Naval Academy of which he is a proud alumnus.

A devoted family man, TJ married his high school sweetheart, Julia, and had three beloved children, and I will remind them that 1 Corinthians declares: No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagines, what God has prepared for those who love Him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues today to join me in celebrating the wonderful life and legacy of TJ Costello.

#### IMPACTS OF THE BIG, UGLY BILL ON MASSACHUSETTS

(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, Donald Trump and this Republican Congress just enacted the largest transfer of wealth in history. They cut 15 million people off of their healthcare and decimated food assistance for working families to give tax breaks to billionaires.

Last week, I joined my dear friend Representative AYANNA PRESSLEY and Project Bread in Boston to hear directly from people experiencing food insecurity about how the big, ugly bill will make their lives more difficult.

We heard from hungry moms, grandmothers, food pantry leaders, and local officials. Each and every person who participated in the roundtables spoke about how the big, ugly bill will increase hunger. If Trump and Republicans in Congress would spend 5 minutes listening to anyone living paycheck to paycheck, they would know how devastating these cuts are.

In Massachusetts, we are crafting a plan to prevent families from going hungry amid these reckless Federal cuts. Governor Maura Healey, her administration, and local advocates are forming the Anti-Hunger Task Force to adopt long-term solutions to support families in Massachusetts and work to finally end hunger now.

#### INVESTIGATION INTO THE FIREAID CONCERT IN LOS ANGELES

(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, I have asked Attorney General Pam Bondi to open an investigation into the