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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NEWHOUSE).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

November 21, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAN NEWHOUSE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

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

Holy Lord, we, too, want to be holy. As the Gospel song goes, we want to be set apart for You, a vessel tried and true.

But as we come before Your throne, we soon realize that our efforts often fall short. Our lives, our attitudes, and our behaviors are far from what anyone would deem holy.

For You have counseled us that holiness does not just mean perseverance and prayer or attempts to be tolerant with one another. Rather, You have commanded us to live in peace with one another without the continual strife or constant drama we perpetuate with those whom we perceive to be our enemies.

Forgive our bitter spirits, which threaten to poison the very people You have called us to serve. Prevent us from selling our birthright to righteousness when our own hunger for immediate satisfaction gets in the way.

You have said, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you," that we may be faithful to the loving relationship You desire with each of us

and all of us with each other. You have shown that when we allow ourselves to be vessels of Your unconditional love, then we receive the strength we need. Then our lives become a living and holy sacrifice to You.

Lord, we want to be holy. Set us apart for Your use on this day.

In Your redeeming name we pray.  
Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BEAN of Florida 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

### SKYROCKETING COST OF HEALTHCARE

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the skyrocketing cost of healthcare. When President

Obama signed the Affordable Care Act, he promised affordable coverage for all.

Mr. Speaker, 15 years and trillions of dollars later, all we have gotten is higher costs and less coverage.

Basic economics tells us that when government subsidizes the price, demand surges and prices soar. We have seen this movie before. Since Federal student loans began 50 years ago, college tuition has risen four and a half times faster than the rate of inflation.

When Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act and spent \$1 trillion on subsidies, inflation hit a 40-year high. It is clear that pouring taxpayer money into our broken healthcare system will only drive prices higher.

As we debate healthcare costs, the solution is not spending more. It is time for real, market-driven reforms that allow for competition and consumer choice.

### HONORING FARRAGUT CAREER ACADEMY 16-INCH SOFTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly honor the Chicago city champs, the members of the Farragut Career Academy 16-inch softball team from my district.

At a time when ICE raids swept through our neighborhoods while DHS carried out Operation Midway Blitz, these remarkable young people brought a ray of hope and something truly worth celebrating to Little Village.

They persevered through these challenges, remained focused, and put in the hard work required to become champions. They have a great underdog story, a testament to determination, discipline, raw talent, and what it can achieve.

□ 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 Farragut Career Academy 16-inch softball team is an inspiring example of the pride and resilience that define Little Village.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate them. They have made us beyond proud.

#### HONORING KENT HAMILTON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Kent Hamilton of Norman Park, who has been named Georgia's 2025 Farmer of the Year.

Mr. Hamilton serves as the chief executive officer of Southern Valley Fruit and Vegetable, a family-owned and family-operated business founded in 1987.

Under his leadership, Southern Valley has expanded to more than 8,500 cultivated acres across Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, and Mexico.

The company grows a variety of fresh vegetables, including green beans, peppers, squash, corn, and cucumbers, and employs hundreds of hardworking individuals who help bring quality produce to families across the country.

Mr. Hamilton began farming 37 years ago alongside his uncle and late brother, starting with cotton, peanuts, and tobacco before transitioning to vegetables to ensure year-round productivity.

Today, Southern Valley is a fully integrated operation that handles every step, from seed to shelf.

Kent's wife and their children each play vital roles in this thriving family business, carrying forward a proud legacy of faith, integrity, and hard work.

#### CELEBRATING ORANGE COUNTY BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate four Orange County schools named 2025 California Blue Ribbon Schools. The honorees include Oxford Academy, Troy High School, Orange Lutheran High, and Tustin Memorial.

These schools were selected for their exceptional academic performance or progress in closing the opportunity gap.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the students, teachers, administrators, and staff who have worked very hard to make Orange County schools great places and the best places to learn.

□ 0910

#### RECOGNIZING 2025 SMALL COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR: RICO, COLORADO

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

Mr. HURD of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the town of Rico, Colorado, for being named the 2025 Small Community of the Year by the Economic Development Council of Colorado.

Rico, known by its town motto, A Slice of Paradise, is home to just under 300 residents and sits along the beautiful Dolores River, nestled among the San Juan Mountains. The town of Rico was established in 1880.

Originally a mining community, the area has become known throughout Colorado for its gorgeous scenery, its incredible outdoor recreation, and its unique tourist attractions.

This year's award honors Rico for excellence in both leadership and economic development. The town earned this distinction through its commitment to revitalizing critical infrastructure, including a new sewer system and reinvesting in community spaces like their town park. These efforts reflect the vision and determination of a community that takes pride in where they live and works hard to build a stronger future.

Rico exemplifies what it means to be a small-town community in western Colorado. Its commitment to progress and service will continue to enrich the lives of many Coloradans.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the town of Rico for this well-deserved recognition.

#### HONORING A.B. SWINDELL

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I pay special tribute to my friend, A.B. Swindell, who peacefully passed on October 23.

A proud son of eastern North Carolina, A.B. was an Army veteran, a 50-year mason, a lifelong outdoorsman, a talented storyteller, and a committed public servant.

He built a distinguished career as a beloved teacher and wrestling coach, served on the Oxford City Council, served as an assistant to Representative Tim Valentine, and served a decade in the North Carolina State Senate.

He was well known for not only his humor and grit but also his practical leadership, deep respect for education, his lapel pin, and unwavering advocacy for eastern North Carolina.

A.B. was devoted to his best friend and wife, Diane; his children, Russ, Walton, William Joseph; and grandchildren, who knew him as Pop.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to Diane. Regardless of all the talk of Ms. Frances, you know who he loved, and he was happy to enjoy life with you.

To his family: I am grateful to have known A.B., and we are fortunate for his remarkable life of service.

#### HONORING THOSE LOST IN WAUKESHA CHRISTMAS PARADE ATTACK

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

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the lives that were lost 4 years ago during the devastating attack on the Waukesha Christmas parade.

On November 21, 2021, Waukesha was enjoying its 58th annual Christmas parade, a time where the community joyfully comes together in celebration of the Christmas season.

Tragically, the parade was halted when an individual committed a senseless act of violence that took the lives of six people: Wilhelm Hospel, Virginia Sorenson, LeAnna Owen, Tamara Durand, Jane Kulich, and Jackson Sparks. He also injured over 60 others.

Today, I introduced a resolution honoring the memory of those who lost their lives on that fateful day and recognizing Waukesha's strength after the tragedy. Since the attack, I have been heartened by the resilience demonstrated by the community of Waukesha through a mural, statue, and soon-to-be-unveiled sculpture.

Waukesha has not only preserved the legacy of those who are no longer with us but also given the community hope as they recover.

#### HONORING THE LIVES OF JUSTIN REINARTS AND TABITHA TRESCOTT

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

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the lives of Justin Reinarts and Tabitha Trescott, two individuals whose lives were senselessly taken on November 2 in the close-knit community of Hanska, Minnesota.

Justin served 17 years with the Hanska Fire Department. He took great pride as a first responder, never giving a second thought to doing anything he could to help others.

At his funeral last week, seven area fire departments paid tribute to Justin, and scores of community members lined the streets to say good-bye.

Tabitha was a warm light in the lives of those who knew her. She is remembered by many for her steadfast belief in God's unconditional love, the driving force behind the love that she showed to others.

Hanska, a town of just a few hundred residents, has been shaken by this tragedy that has left our community heartbroken for the families of Justin and Tabitha, especially their children who are left to carry on without them.

I am honored here today to pay tribute to Justin and Tabitha, and may their lives and their contributions to southern Minnesota never be forgotten.