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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
March 5, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CAROL D. MILLER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2026, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

### WORKING ACROSS THE AISLE

(Mr. HOYER of Maryland was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, this has been a historic week in many ways. We have significant disagreements in this House. I rose a few days ago to say to all the House Members on both sides of the aisle that we ought to move on behalf of the American people legislation and policies on which we agree and not allow them to be lost or unaddressed because of the fact that we have other matters on which we disagree.

That is a successful strategy for families, for human beings, for business, and for life, to not allow the things on which we disagree be an impediment to moving us forward on things we can agree on.

I rise this morning because we are going to have two items about which I am greatly concerned on the floor today. Actually, one of them will be on the floor and one will not. I am concerned about the one that will be, and I am concerned about the one that will not. I want to speak briefly about them.

We will be considering a bill on the floor today that will fund the Department of Homeland Security. There is within that bill two items on which the parties disagree. There are also within that bill literally a score, twoscore, perhaps threescore on which we agree. Those items will affect whether or not we pay people who are working for the Federal Government and for the American people.

A number of them are very important items. One is the TSA, the Transportation Security Agency, which we all see at airports. As far as I can tell, everybody in this House, all 435, believe they ought to be paid.

We will have on the sea surrounding our country and perhaps in other places, the Coast Guard patrolling for the sanctity of our borders, for the safety of our mariners, and for the safety both of commercial and non-commercial vessels.

There is also an agency within the Department of Homeland Security called the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which responds to jurisdictions and to people when disasters occur causing great damage to communities and to people. As far as I can tell, everybody is for funding that agency.

The Secret Service, particularly at a time of war but at all times, has a very difficult job. They are called essential

employees. They are working now, but they are not being paid. As far as I can tell, everybody in the House believes they ought to be paid.

Now we have a disagreement over the way that the ICE, otherwise known as the immigration service, is handling its work, its duties. Some of us believe that they are doing things that are outside the boundary of the Constitution, the laws of our country and our States, and the norms of police activity. It is a significant, important difference of opinion that ought to be argued, that ought to be resolved, and we resolve things through a vote on this floor.

The Border Patrol is also involved not at the border but in the interior of our country. That is not usual and it has resulted, in the opinion of some of us, in the taking of American lives inconsistent with the safety of American citizens and inconsistent with the norms of police work in America in our counties and in our cities and in our States.

Madam Speaker, in conclusion, I hope that we will vote on a motion to recommit which funds all of the Federal employees in question and represents honestly to the American people that the customs agency and ICE are already funded and were funded at the beginning of this year.

### PASSING FARM BILL 2.0

(Mr. MANN of Kansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers are the backbone of this country. They wake up before the sun, work until long after it sets, and take on risk every single day to feed, fuel, and clothe the world. Too often in Washington we ask them to do that work without the certainty and stability that they deserve.

The last fully enacted farm bill was passed in 2018. That might not seem

□ 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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like long ago in Washington, but in agriculture 6 years is a lifetime. Input costs and inflation surged under the mismanagement of the last administration. Markets are more volatile, and global competition has only intensified.

Our farmers do not need more uncertainty. They need predictability. They need policies that allow them to invest, plan, and efficiently keep their farms and ranches in their families.

That is why it was so critical that we passed what I call farm bill 1.0 last year. Through the Working Families Tax Cut Act, Republican majorities in Congress delivered the most significant investment in American agriculture in decades. We strengthened the farm safety net. We modernized crop insurance. We expanded access to commodity programs. We made historic investments in conservation, research, trade, and rural development. We delivered real tax relief to family farms and ranchers that operate on razor-thin margins.

Those policies lowered the cost of doing business, strengthened risk management tools, and gave producers more confidence to keep working in the face of uncertainty. From cattle ranchers to ag lenders, Americans in agriculture truly needed those policies. In short, it helped farmers weather economic pressure after 4 years of sky-high inflation that increased input costs by more than 36 percent under President Biden, but the job is not finished.

Farm bill 2.0 is about continuing what we started last summer. It is about taking that running start and delivering a fiscally responsible, 5-year farm bill that works for agricultural producers in the real world.

The Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 does exactly that. This week, my colleagues on the House Agriculture Committee and I marked up the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026, passing this legislation out of committee in a bipartisan fashion just a few hours ago.

This bill, which I consider farm bill 2.0, reflects the agriculture of today, not that of 2018. It strengthens commodity programs and disaster assistance so our Nation's producers are not left waiting on Congress every time drought, flood, wildfire, or disease strikes.

Farm bill 2.0 ensures dairy, livestock, and specialty crop producers have policies that match their risk. It protects crop insurance as the cornerstone of the farm safety net. It supports conservation programs that are locally led, voluntary, and practical.

The Farm, Food, and National Security Act expands access to credit and modernizes loan limits so producers can keep up with the capital-intensive nature of agriculture today. It strengthens rural development, broadband, water infrastructure, and rural hospitals, because agriculture does not exist in isolation. Strong

farms require strong rural communities.

Importantly, the bill is built on a bedrock of fiscally conservative policy. A farm bill should provide certainty without growing government for the sake of growing government. It should prioritize the men and women who have dedicated their lives to American agriculture instead of prioritizing paperwork. It should set our farmers up for success without getting in their way, and it should respect the taxpayer while recognizing that a secure food supply is key to national security. I am proud to say that our farm bill 2.0 lives up to those conservative standards.

This is not about politics. It is about doing our job. Farmers and ranchers plan in seasons and decades, not in continuing resolutions and short-term extensions. Every delay makes it harder for them to make decisions about planting, equipment purchases, and land leases.

Passing a 5-year bill gives producers what they need most: certainty. It gives them certainty to invest, certainty to innovate, and certainty to keep feeding a hungry world. Farm bill 1.0 laid that foundation. Farm bill 2.0 will continue that work.

As part of my farm bill impact series, I have spoken on this floor 34 times advocating for Congress to pass a farm bill, and this legislation is exactly what I have spent so long advocating for: the farm bill that builds on the agricultural wins we passed last year, and most importantly, the farm bill that our farmers and ranchers are depending on.

Madam Speaker, I call on the rest of my colleagues to recognize our bipartisan hard work and pass this legislation for the good of our farmers, our food supply, and our national security because when farmers succeed, America succeeds.

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#### IN MEMORY OF JOHN J. HEIDINGER

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a truly remarkable Buffalonian, John J. Heidinger, who passed away at the age of 72 on January 1, 2026.

John's presence was woven into the fabric of Buffalo, and with his passing, our city has lost a pillar in our community. To know John was to know something essential about Buffalo itself: loyalty, humor, generosity, and an unwavering devotion to the people and places that shaped him.

John was born and raised in Buffalo's Old First Ward, a neighborhood defined by its character and Irish pride. John carried that with him every day of his life.

He was one of eight children raised by Jack and Elizabeth Heidinger in a small apartment near O'Connell Ave-

nue, where love, faith, and hard work were not just values. They were a way of life.

That foundation shaped the course of John's story.

John deeply believed in the power of organized labor, in the fairness, stability, and respect unions provide working families. That conviction led him to dedicate more than 40 years of his life as an usher and ticket taker, where he stood shoulder to shoulder with his fellow union members and ultimately went on to serve as president of Local 235, which would later become SEIU Local 200 United.

As president, John negotiated fair contracts, defended livelihoods, and helped ensure that generations of workers in western New York, including me and my family, could make a better life for themselves and their loved ones.

□ 1015

Madam Speaker, if we grew up in Buffalo, chances are we knew John in another way, too. In the early years of his career, John served as equipment manager for the Buffalo Sabres. He loved the team, the travel, the stories, and the joy of being part of something larger than himself.

John would even invite players, especially those far from home with nowhere to go, to his house for Thanksgiving dinner. That was John, making room at the table, always looking out for others, and always treating everyone like family.

In so many ways, John was present for Buffalo's most cherished memories. They include Sabres games, Bills games, Bisons games, Shea's performances, Kleinhans concerts, the racetrack, the Aud, The Rockpile, Pilot Field, The Ralph, and the arena.

John was the familiar face at the door. He was the one who knew everyone's name, who greeted everyone with a smile, and who made each person feel welcome.

Above all else, John's favorite role was being a devoted father to Michael, Susanne, and Sara and a cherished papa to his grandson, Ethan. He was also a beloved friend and partner to Martha.

May we honor John's memory by living with the same generosity, loyalty, and pride in where we come from that he showed throughout his life.

To John's extensive family, friends, and loved ones, we hold them in our hearts. On behalf of a grateful city and on behalf of a grateful nation, may John J. Heidinger rest in peace.

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#### STANDING WITH STUDENTS IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

(Mr. MCCORMICK of Georgia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MCCORMICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss legislation that is near and dear to me. It updates outdated Federal definitions and ensures