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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026

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

PRAYER

Pastor Aaron Derstine, Hopewell Christian Fellowship, Telford, Pennsylvania, offered the following prayer:

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as we gather in this Chamber today, we recognize Your sovereign presence over all time and in the foundations and calling of this great Nation, the United States of America.

We acknowledge our dependence upon You for salvation, for life, for breath, and for guidance. Remembering the words of Proverbs that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, we pray for the fear of the Lord and Your divine wisdom for our legislators, that You would grant them the strength and the understanding to walk continually in Your righteousness, justice, and truth.

We remember Your exhortation to us all "to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly before our God." May this ever ring true of our Nation, that we all as Your servants may further Your peace and bring Godly light and freedom throughout this Nation and to the world.

Lord, let Your kingdom come, let Your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven for the United States of America.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, 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 California (Mr. PANETTA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PANETTA 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 PASTOR AARON DERSTINE

The SPEAKER. Without objection, Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania was recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome and thank our guest chaplain, Pastor Aaron Derstine for offering today's opening prayer.

Pastor Derstine currently serves as the senior pastor for Hopewell Christian Fellowship in Telford, Pennsylvania. He received his academic and ministry training at Wheaton College before entering full-time ministry in 2002 and continues to serve as a staff writer with Eagles' Wings Ministries in Buffalo, New York.

For many years, Pastor Derstine has devoted himself to studying and teaching the Word of God, speaking at churches and events both here at home and abroad.

He is also a gifted musician and a worship leader, using his musical talents across the country and internationally, including work amongst Jewish and Arab communities in Israel and the broader Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for Pastor Derstine's prayer this morning. We thank him for his faithful ministry. I thank Pastor Derstine, and may God bless him and his continued service.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

RECOGNIZING JOHN DOUGLAS KOHLER

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

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank a friend and valued member of my team, John Kohler, who is moving on to a new opportunity.

John has been on my staff since 2018 after graduating from The Ohio State University and serving in the offices of former Congressman Pat Tiberi and

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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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former Speaker of the House Paul Ryan.

During that time, he distinguished himself through his dedication to public service and his commitment to the people of the 12th Congressional District.

He served as a trusted adviser on foreign policy, defense, telecom, tech, and oversight, and helped lead our work on consumer protection policy, contributing to the bipartisan passage of the Awning Safety Act.

My team and I will greatly miss John and his beloved chocolate lab Jeb who brightened our office and welcomed every constituent who walked through our door.

I am deeply grateful for his service, and I wish him continued success.

HONORING LIFE AND LEGACY OF ROBERT G. GARD, JR.

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I honor the life and the legacy of Lieutenant General Robert G. Gard, Jr.

General Gard recently passed at 98 years young after a life dedicated to service, including a three-decade military career serving in Korea and Vietnam, leadership at educational institutions across the country, and advocacy to ban land mines and for our veterans.

While he was a well-decorated soldier and well-renowned for his service to the country, General Gard's impact on our Monterey community was unparalleled.

After serving as the commanding general of the former Fort Ord, General Gard spent more than a decade as the President of the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

With his leadership, General Gard bolstered the institution's international reputation while connecting with students, faculty, and the greater Monterey community.

He served at all levels, including helping us create the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery. My heart goes out to his wife, Janet, and all those whose lives he touched.

I am deeply grateful for General Gard's lifetime of loyalty, duty, and respect, and I am thankful for his legacy of service that affects everybody in the 19th Congressional District of California.

□ 0910

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MY FRIEND LYMAN

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent, a volunteer, and a good friend, Lyman, on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

Lyman has volunteered his time and energy on behalf of the people of Utah for many years. He shows up. He does the work, and he does it because he cares about this State and the people in it.

That kind of dedication deserves to be recognized. I am thankful for Lyman and those like him who are willing to volunteer their time and serve the people of Utah and the people of the United States of America.

Happy birthday to Lyman. May God bless him, and may God bless the great United States of America.

REPUBLICANS MUST REIN IN THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

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

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, this past week, my Republican colleagues voted to give Donald Trump a blank check to continue his military operation in Iran, and it is regular Americans who are paying the price.

Thirteen U.S. servicemembers have been killed. Nearly 400 troops have been wounded, and this war could end up costing taxpayers \$1 trillion in the long term.

Here at home, Americans are being crushed by higher gas prices, rising healthcare costs, and bigger electric bills. Republicans had the chance to rein in a Commander in Chief who threatens war crimes, attacks our allies, and is wrecking our economy. They chose to let him run rampant instead.

Americans cannot afford this insane and crazy agenda any longer. Pass a War Powers Resolution. Rein in Donald Trump, and start investing in the American people at home, not bombs overseas.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BOB HARLAN

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

Mr. WIED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Green Bay Packers legend, Bob Harlan, who passed away last month at the age of 89.

Bob was born on September 9, 1936, in Des Moines and graduated from Marquette University in 1958. He spent 6 years as the sports publicity director at Marquette before joining baseball's St. Louis Cardinals.

In 1971, Bob was hired by the Packers as the assistant general manager. Over the next 18 years, he held various administration positions with the team before being elected president and CEO in 1989, a role he held until 2008.

Under Harlan's leadership, the Packers achieved significant success, including a victory in Super Bowl XXXI, an NFC championship in 1997, and 13

winning seasons over a 16-year span from 1992 to 2007.

Beyond these accomplishments, Bob is remembered for his approachable and personal leadership style. He was a caring leader who inspired trust and confidence in those around him.

Bob is survived by his beloved wife, Madeline, with whom he was married for nearly 67 years, his three children, four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all Packers fans and everyone across northeast Wisconsin, I extend my sincere gratitude to Bob Harlan for his leadership and send my prayers to his family during this difficult time.

ARTEMIS II

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the world watched in awe as three astronauts from NASA and one astronaut from the Canadian Space Agency became the first people to travel to the Moon in more than 50 years.

I applaud Reid Wiseman, Victor Glover, Christina Koch, and Jeremy Hansen for their exploration and their excellence.

Through the Artemis II mission, these courageous four ventured farther from Earth than humankind has ever been, reminding us of our relative smallness and the love and common humanity that binds us together. From 250,000 miles away, they saw a planet with no borders.

Yet a feat as interstellar as Artemis is, it offers some local pride. Bally Ribbon Mills from Bally, PA, manufactured 3-D woven material, super-strength textiles to support thermal protections for the spacecraft.

McDanel, a company from Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, manufactured the windows. Mission Specialist Christina Koch, though a Michigander, is a Philly sports fan.

Victor Glover summed it up: From up here, you look like one thing. We are all one people.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY

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

Mrs. KIM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 111th anniversary of the Armenian genocide and to honor the resilience and strength of the Armenian people.

I am deeply grateful for our vibrant Armenian-American community in southern California whom I cherish very dearly. Their history, their culture, and their contributions are an enduring part of our Nation's history.

As we reflect on this tragedy, we must also reaffirm our commitment to