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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CRANK).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 27, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF CRANK 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 1:50 p.m.

RECOGNIZING ZACH AND TESA STINSON

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, with pride and admiration, I rise to congratulate Zach and Tesa Stinson of Chambersburg on their impressive performances in the 130th Boston Marathon.

Zach dominated the handcycle division to win his fourth Boston Marathon title, and Tesa finished her first-ever Boston Marathon.

Zach, a previous champion in 2021, 2023, and 2024, covered the 26.2-mile course in just over an hour.

A United States Marine Corps veteran, Zach lost his legs after stepping on an IED while serving in Afghanistan in 2010. He began competing in marathons in 2012 and has made eight appearances in Boston.

The day before the marathon, both Zach and Tesa threw out the ceremonial first pitches at Fenway Park.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate both Zach and Tesa for their achievements that reflect athletic ability, endurance, and personal strength.

HONORING MCCARTNEY'S OF ALTOONA

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor McCartney's of Altoona as they commemorate two milestones of success—100 years of family ownership in 2026 and 140 years of operation in 2027.

McCartney's was founded in 1887 by Thomas McCartney. In 1926, the business was purchased by John Tracey. Today, McCartney's is owned by Randy Green, who is John Tracey's great-grandson.

As workplaces adapted to changing needs over the years, the product lines at McCartney's have also expanded.

Defined by a commitment to personal service, McCartney's has cultivated a loyal customer base throughout Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Randy Green and his entire team at McCartney's on these milestones. I express my personal gratitude for his enduring contributions to economic development as a valued family-owned business.

SUPPORTING DAIRY PRODUCTS

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in favor of a bipartisan bill that I reintroduced last week known as the DAIRY PRIDE Act. This legislation will restore honesty in how we label the foods that Americans rely on every day.

As a doctor, I have seen firsthand how proper nutrition shapes long-term health. Dairy products provide essential nutrients that support strong bones, brain function, and muscle health.

Today, consumers are increasingly faced with products labeled as milk, cheese, or yogurt that do not meet the same nutritional standards.

This is not just a labeling issue. It is a public health issue. When families are misled at the grocery store, they cannot make fully informed decisions about their nutrition.

The DAIRY PRIDE Act both supports our hardworking dairy farmers and protects the American consumer.

Mr. Speaker, as this enters the legislative process, I urge all of my colleagues to support this commonsense reform.

IMPROVING MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Medicare Advantage Improvement Act, a bipartisan, commonsense effort to strengthen a program that millions of seniors rely on.

Medicare Advantage has grown rapidly, but with that growth, serious concerns have arisen. Across our country, seniors are facing unnecessary delays, burdensome prior authorization requirements, and inappropriate denials of care.

These hurdles are harmful. They take away time from the doctor-patient relationship, and in some cases, they actually delay critical treatment.

This legislation is about ensuring that when a doctor and patient determine that a patient needs a specific care, that care is delivered without interference from unnecessary red tape.

Medicare is a promise to our seniors, and we, in Congress, have a responsibility to uphold that promise.

This legislation would protect our seniors, strengthen accountability, and ensure that Medicare Advantage works in the way that it was intended.

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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FUND THESE GRANTS

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, places of worship and nonprofit centers have always been sanctuaries of hope, spirituality, and community in our country, but violence and hate continue to be on the rise. Places of worship are increasingly becoming targets.

Between 2021 and 2023, attacks on churches, synagogues, temples, and mosques increased by nearly 100 percent. Overall, hate crimes in the U.S. are up more than 80 percent since 2015, and 2025 was ranked as the fifth highest year for hate crimes in the FBI's 34-year history of tracking this data.

We need to do more, and that is why I am calling on my colleagues to continue to support nonprofit security grants and other hate prevention programs. We need to help nonprofit organizations, especially houses of worship and religious community centers, enhance physical security against terrorist attacks and threats to them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to call out the rise we are seeing in hateful rhetoric. It has no place in our communities, and it certainly has no place in the Halls of Congress.

Let's fund this effort. Let's continue to support and protect our places of worship.

STOP THE MOVE

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, we can all agree that the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service is critical to keeping our food safe and protecting us from foodborne illnesses. This administration is trying to undermine this office and our country's ability to prevent foodborne illness.

Just last week, the USDA announced that it is moving its food safety headquarters from D.C. to another part of the country. Now, 200 food safety experts will have to choose between uprooting their lives or staying in their jobs.

We have seen this before. The last time the administration moved a USDA office across the country, it was two research-focused offices, and moving them was a complete disaster for the work of those offices. They lost over a third of their full-time staff, particularly the most experienced people, and they saw steep declines in agency productivity. It completely disrupted the grants and research that they do.

This administration claims that the food safety office continues operating without interruption during this move, but we know from experience that is just not true. In every other case, the people who resigned were the people who had the most experience, the people we needed the most.

Mr. Speaker, the American people can't afford to have an inexperienced, understaffed, and unproductive food safety office, so the USDA needs to stop this move and stop jeopardizing our Nation's food safety.

TSA AGENT CUTS

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, we have been hearing for weeks now about how the DHS shutdown needs to end because TSA workers need to get paid, and I agree.

TSA workers have now been working with sporadic pay for 10 weeks. They may even get furloughed again until we decide to end this shutdown by putting the Senate Bill on the floor.

I want to draw your attention to the President's budget. While the President and his administration talk about the importance of TSA workers and keeping lines short at the airport, the President's own budget suggests cutting almost 10,000 TSA agents.

This is all part of a larger plan to get rid of the TSA altogether. For those keeping score at home like me, this is chapter 5 of Project 2025.

Cutting these TSA jobs would mean a lot of things, like worse quality service, cuts to employee pay and benefits, customer dissatisfaction, and a higher risk of errors at places like our airports, where there is no room for error.

Mr. Speaker, I could keep going. The next time the President or any administration official talks about how we need to end this shutdown to support TSA workers, just look at the President's budget.

PROTECTING DATA CENTERS

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, data centers hold critical information we use every day and keep the internet running.

Whether it is AI, blockchain, or any other innovations in technology, data centers are going to be a key part of this.

Because data centers are so critical, they are becoming targets during wars. Look at the Russian-Ukrainian war. Russia is attacking Ukrainian data centers. Iran has struck commercial data centers in the UAE and has said that data centers are military targets now.

My district is home to hundreds of data centers, and families, schools, parks, and places of worship are all close to data centers in my district. People living around these data centers shouldn't have to worry about being a target anymore.

That is why I am introducing the Data Infrastructure Risk Reduction Act. This bill would direct the Department of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to protect data centers and the communities around them from being targeted during attacks.

The government needs to do everything possible to protect these communities because Americans deserve to know that if a data center is going to be built next to them, we will protect that community, and they won't be a target at that point.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and pass this bill.

FINANCIAL FRAUD IS A PLAGUE

(Mr. HILL of Arkansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, financial fraud is a plague. Financial fraud is one of the fastest growing crimes in this country, harming families and seniors across the Nation.

Last year alone, Americans lost more than \$12.5 billion to scams. These crimes steal hard-earned savings and retirement funds. They destroy lives, and they undermine confidence in our financial system.

That is why it is critical for every American to take simple steps to protect themselves. Never share banking or personal information unless you have verified the source. Be cautious of unsolicited calls and emails. Review bank statements regularly, and use and develop strong passwords and multi-factor authentication to secure your accounts. If you suspect fraud, report it immediately to law enforcement or the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, I have a mission to protect both Arkansans and all Americans from financial crime. It remains a top priority.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO FIRST SERVICE BANK OF ARKANSAS

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express appreciation to First Service Bank of Arkansas for their contributions to our beloved, respected Arkansas military community through their annual Operation Red, White, and Brave.

This program has raised both awareness and funds that provide resources for home modifications and financial assistance efforts for both veterans and current Active-Duty members and their families throughout our central Arkansas area.

This program raises money through donations, events, and an annual charity golf clinic.

Mr. Speaker, every day, I love representing the amazing volunteers and generous citizens across our Second District. Local community businesses like First Service Bank that dedicate time and effort to help our veterans and the people of Arkansas are a real feature and strength of central Arkansas.

CONGRATULATING RANDY MASSANELLI

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Randy Massanelli on his retirement as vice chancellor of the Government and Community Relations unit at the University of Arkansas and to thank him for his dedicated service to his community and our proud State.

As a native of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and a proud graduate of the University of Fayetteville, Mr. Massanelli served in the United States Army for 15 years, rising to the rank of major before moving to higher education.

While in the Army, Randy served in numerous assignments as the officer in charge of ground convoy movements for the Pershing II missiles in Europe and a combat tour in the Persian Gulf