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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. McDOWELL).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
May 14, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ADDISON P. McDOWELL 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.

### FAMILIES DESERVE CLEAN AIR

(Ms. TLAIB of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, DTE Energy has a monopoly in my district. It is the primary source of utilities for gas and electricity for my residents. This is why it is critical and important for me to introduce the Make DTE Pay Act. It would substantially increase monetary penalties on utilities like DTE Energy when they seek customer rate increases within two preceding or following Clean Air Act violations.

Mr. Speaker, you might ask: Why?

It is because DTE was hit with more than \$100 million in penalties for violating the Clean Air Act by a Federal judge. Within the same week, they got a \$240 million increase in rates, and DTE Energy customers, our residents, already know we are paying some of the highest rates in the country for some of the least reliable services, all while DTE shareholders and executives get richer. Now we know DTE has, again, been hit by this violation. They turned around and put it on the consumers.

Corporate polluters like DTE treat breaking environmental laws as just the cost of doing business. It is insulting to every single family in my district that is being poisoned by the air they breathe because of this company, and they turn around and jack up our utility bills year after year.

That is why it is critical and important that we introduce the Make DTE Pay Act. I encourage my colleagues to understand the importance of this. This legislation forces utilities like DTE to make a choice: Follow the Clean Air Act or face real financial consequences when they try to raise rates on customers whom they have already harmed.

We have to change the math. Polluting our communities must be as bad for business as it is for our health. Our families deserve clean air, reliable service, and accountability, not excuses and higher bills.

### REPUBLICAN REDISTRICTING

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, Republicans are trying to drag this country back to a Jim Crow South where Black political power is stripped and our voices are stripped, silenced, and dismissed. This time it is not with the hoods but with maps and court rulings that do the same old work.

People might find this insulting, but it is very obvious why we need the Voting Rights Act. It is because they

turned around and changed the map to dilute Black voices. With the help of the far right, extreme Supreme Court, they are dismantling voting rights across the South and targeting our Black neighbors who have bled, marched, and died for our civil rights.

The administration promised to make life more affordable. Instead, they have gutted our healthcare for millions, invested in death and destruction abroad, and used their fascist ICE army to tear apart our communities. They know these policies are not popular among the American people. That is why they are redrawing the maps. It is because it is the only way they can win.

I am from Detroit, the most beautiful, Blackest city in the country. Come there, Mr. Speaker. It is the most loving and most resilient community that you have ever met. That is where I learned to speak truth to power, even if my voice shakes.

When Black political power is attacked anywhere, then our democracy itself is under attack everywhere. We have seen all this before, Mr. Speaker, but like those who came before us, we will not be intimidated, we will not be silenced, and we will not back down.

### UNHOUSED PERSONS

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, right now, on any given night, in the richest country on Earth, nearly 771,000 of our neighbors are unhoused. One million children experience homelessness every year. Think about that: 1 million children. This is not accidental. This is a policy choice.

Every year, Congress passes another record-breaking military budget. We always find money for war and destruction, even though the Department of War hasn't passed eight audits in a row.

Somehow, we are told, there is not enough money to house our people. This is unacceptable. We know the truth. Congress has the money, and

☐ 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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Congress has the power to change that. What is missing is the political will to care deeply about those who maybe will have access to the same opportunities many of us had in this Chamber.

Housing is a human right. Our government has a responsibility to treat it that way. There will be no more excuses. We must act because our neighbors deserve a home and dignity, and we refuse to accept anything else.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in supporting the Unhoused Persons Bill of Rights resolution that lays out a real path forward, boosting affordable housing for so many of our communities, fully funding Federal housing programs, and expanding access to services for unhoused individuals. These are investments we need, and these are investments that the American people ask for.

#### HARRIS BAKING COMPANY

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize a business in my district celebrating its 100th birthday this month.

Harris Baking Company of Rogers, Arkansas, began operations back in 1926 under the leadership of Earl A. Harris. During the Great Depression, the bakery team produced up to 250 loaves each day and sold them for a mere ten cents a loaf. Mr. HARRIS, grateful for his employees, made sure during that difficult time that none of those employees missed a check.

He expanded it in 1937 and upped the daily production to 1,200 loaves a day, and, in 1950, a slicing and wrapping operation was added.

Earl Harris died in 1959, but the legacy of his company ensued. With serious competition from national brands, a group of independent grocers purchased the bakery from the Harris family, the first to be owned by independent retailers in the United States.

By 1978, Harris Baking Company was producing 1 million loaves a year, and by the time it celebrated its 60th anniversary, it boasted 100 employees producing 75,000 units a day, a \$250 million impact on the local economy.

Today, the company has 180 employees and distributes more than 30 million loaves annually. Deliveries occur three times a week in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Missouri. It is not just about the bottom line. Harris Baking Company routinely helps with disaster relief when our citizens are suffering a hardship.

Mr. Speaker, the book of Matthew says: "Give us this day our daily bread." Harris Baking Company of Rogers, Arkansas, has been delivering this basic food staple now for 100 years.

Congratulations to this outstanding company, and here is to another century of quality service.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CAYLE TERN

(Ms. DEXTER of Oregon was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the far too short life and legacy of Cayle Tern, a community leader, a fierce advocate for immigrant and refugee families, and a beloved son of east county and of Oregon.

Cayle came to Portland as a young child, an Iu Mien refugee from Laos, whose family spent years in a refugee camp before finding safety here.

That story became the foundation of his life's work: ensuring that other immigrant and refugee families had what his family did not, a voice in the decisions of their lives.

He brought that purpose to everything he touched. As civic engagement manager at APANO, he fought tirelessly for Asian-Pacific-American communities across Oregon. He served as president of the Iu-Mien Association of Oregon, board chair of the Asian Pacific Islander Community Coalition of Oregon, a member of the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization Governance Board, and a board member of the Reynolds School District.

He helped build a school in Laos and was instrumental in founding MINTeD, a nonprofit dedicated to uplifting Southeast Asian youth. His commitment was steadfast, and it was genuine.

In the final chapter of his work, as ICE escalated its targeting of Laotian and Southeast Asian community members across Oregon, Cayle immersed himself in the effort to protect his neighbors.

I had the honor, just a few weeks ago, to work with Cayle, PIRC, the city of Portland, and many others to elevate the work we all need to be doing to protect our Laotian and Hmong immigrants in our community from ICE cruelty and lawlessness. He wanted his people to be informed, protected, and seen. That was Cayle.

He had a gift for bringing people together through friendship, through laughter, through shared meals and through the simple, powerful act of showing up. He made people feel welcomed and valued, and he understood that community is built through relationship as much as it is through policy.

To his wife, May, his children, and his family: Oregon grieves with you. We stand in firm support of you as you navigate this really treacherous and hard time.

Mr. Speaker, Cayle gave so much to so many, and his legacy lives on in every person he inspired to show up, to organize, and to lead with heart. His legacy calls us forward.

#### HIGH GAS PRICES

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, inflation just jumped to its highest level in 3 years. Gas prices are at a 4-year high, with Oregonians paying an average of

\$5.35 a gallon. Working families are struggling. They are choosing between filling up their tank and putting food on the table. They are watching their costs go up while their paychecks stay the same.

This is the reality at home, and bringing relief to our communities must be our priority, yet the administration and Republicans are refusing to center the American people. Instead, they are allowing a reckless and unnecessary war in the Middle East to continue, driving up global oil prices, alienating our allies, and creating instability in energy markets and the world's economy.

Just yesterday, the Senate, once again, blocked legislation to stop this war. Today, the House has an opportunity to act. We will vote on a war powers resolution. At a time when Americans are asking us for relief, we should not be prolonging a war that makes their lives more expensive and less stable.

I refuse to stop talking about how hard people are working just to get by.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to prioritize caring for working families and to demand an end to the war in Iran.

#### HAPPY NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Police Week, observed this year from May 10 to May 16.

Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, this week serves as a solemn tribute to the men and women in blue who lost their lives in the line of duty. Since then, support for National Police Week has grown significantly.

National Police Week is sponsored by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial fund. Its mission is to tell the story of American law enforcement, honor the fallen, and make it safer for those who serve.

This year, thousands of police officers and law enforcement supporters are gathering here in Washington, D.C., to show their public support for the men and women who wear the badge.

I encourage people visiting our Nation's Capital this week to visit the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Here, Mr. Speaker, you can pay tribute to more than 24,000 fallen officers whose names are engraved on the memorial.

Earlier this year, we mourned Pennsylvania State Trooper Timothy O'Connor, who died during a traffic stop. Trooper O'Connor, like so many other law enforcement officers we have lost, served with dignity, honor, and courage. I pray God continues to protect and bless his family.

Every day, more than 700,000 law enforcement officers uphold the responsibility of protecting Americans and serving their local communities.