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No. 96

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
June 8, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DARRELL ISSA 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 JENNY MEARKLE

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with gratitude and respect that I rise to recognize Jenny Mearkle, a valued colleague and friend, who will be retiring at the end of June after more than 21 years of service to constituents throughout Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District.

Jenny's work in constituent services has been characterized by efficiency and empathy. The foundation of Jen-

ny's success as manager of the Altoona district office is her heartfelt desire to help people. When it comes to resolving an issue for a constituent, Jenny is never confined by space or by the time that is needed.

Wherever she might be—during or outside the boundaries of a traditional workday—Jenny makes every effort to respond to constituent casework inquiries, not only because it is the professional thing to do, but because Jenny genuinely cares.

As a builder of relationships throughout the 13th Congressional District, Jenny has achieved unparalleled success while earning the admiration of her constituents.

I thank Jenny Mearkle. I thank her for her distinguished legacy of dedicated service to the constituents of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, and I wish her much happiness in all the years to come.

### RECOGNIZING SAM WORLEY

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sam Worley as the recipient of the Franklin County Conservation District's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Sam, who will be celebrating his 105th birthday on June 13, is a proud U.S. Army Air Corps veteran of World War II. Notably, he has lived a life in distinguished service to his community and to his country.

The award presented to Sam by the Franklin County Conservation District pays tribute to his decades of leadership and enduring impact on the conservation of natural resources in Franklin County.

Sam accepted the appointment as the director with the Franklin County Conservation District in 1992. Now, more than three decades later, Sam continues to serve the district in his role as associate director.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Sam on this prestigious award. He truly embodies what it means to a member of the Greatest Generation.

### RECOGNIZING CHERYL JOHNS

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a dedicated public servant, Cheryl Johns, who is retiring as the executive director of the Altoona Housing Authority with over 26 years of service.

Cheryl is admired and respected for her commitment to maintaining the highest standard of administrative excellence. She has been a trusted and dependable public servant. She works for families and individuals who seek affordable and reliable housing in the city of Altoona.

As a housing administrator for the last 33 years, Cheryl has created a legacy of service based on the belief that a healthy and productive society is founded on safe and stable housing.

On behalf of the constituents throughout Altoona and the entire 13th Congressional District, I personally thank Cheryl Johns for her commitment to her profession and extend best wishes for a wonderful retirement.

### CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES MUSEUM OF ART

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art, known in Pennsylvania as SAMA.

Incorporated in 1975, SAMA opened its first gallery in June 1976 in Altoona. Galleries were subsequently opened in Johnstown, Ligonier, and Bedford.

Today, SAMA successfully operates the Nation's longest-running museum satellite program. The museum maintains a permanent collection of more than 7,500 works.

SAMA is a dynamic cultural leader, enriching lives through exhibitions and programs that advance the appreciation of art. The museum itself serves as a vibrant hub of education and community engagement.

As the celebration of SAMA's golden anniversary continues throughout this

□ 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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year, I personally express my gratitude to the museum's president, Barry Newborn; to the vice president, Ehrin Ward; the board of trustees; and the entire staff of SAMA for their commitment to sharing the absolute beauty of art.

#### OPPOSING THE ICE BUDGET BILL

(Ms. BARRAGÁN of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, families are struggling to pay for groceries, gas, rent, and healthcare.

What are Republicans doing? They are bringing a budget to the floor this week to give ICE and Border Patrol another \$70 billion blank check—no guardrails, no oversight, no accountability.

Not a single dollar in this bill covers the cost of living for Americans. Not a single dollar makes life more affordable for working families. Instead, Republicans are spending billions to bankroll Donald Trump's cruelty and corruption.

At the same time, they are letting Trump keep a \$1.8 billion slush fund that can be used to reward political allies and advance his own agenda. This is not fiscal responsibility. This is the betrayal of the American people.

We have already seen where these priorities lead. Republicans cut healthcare. They cut food assistance for children, for seniors, and veterans, all while protecting giveaways for the wealthy.

Now they want Americans to pay for more masked ICE agents to brutalize our communities and violently target law-abiding immigrant families.

Communities across the country are demanding accountability. Instead, Republicans are writing another blank check.

House Democrats are fighting to lower costs and make Americans lives safer, healthier, and more affordable while holding this administration accountable.

Congress should be lowering costs. We should be helping working people. We should be holding this administration accountable, and that is why House Democrats reject this reckless budget.

#### FIGHTING BACK AGAINST THE DISMANTLING OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say I dissent. I strongly dissent.

I join Justices Elena Kagan, Sonia Sotomayor, and Ketanji Brown Jackson in their dissent in *Louisiana v. Callais*, a decision that seeks to demolish the Voting Rights Act.

As Justice Kagan stated: "the Court's decision will set back the foundational right Congress granted of racial equality in electoral opportunity."

Make no mistake, this is an attack on fair representation. Republican-led southern States have wasted no time

to redraw their districts to eliminate any Democratic representation. In some extreme cases, they have canceled elections that already started. Just last week, the Supreme Court allowed Alabama to eliminate a whole majority Black district, essentially reversing its previous opinions.

Whether you are in a majority Black district or not, this impacts all of us.

Right now, they are targeting Black representation in the South, but tomorrow it could be a blue district in any State. This is about fair representation, and it is about our democracy.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor stated in her dissent, the Court "debases the democratic process" and "corrodes the rule of law by rewarding Alabama's gamesmanship and outright defiance of Court orders."

Republicans know they have to rig the maps in November to win because they cannot run on their failed policies, policies which have led to high gas prices and made life more expensive.

People shed blood and some died for the right to vote for fair representation.

We need to come together now to fight for our voting rights. Black, Latino, Asian American, White, and all communities need to unite in one mission: to protect democracy.

We must guarantee that every American has an equal voice in our democracy and an equal opportunity to elect Representatives who represent their constituents' interests.

When Democrats regain the House, we will work to pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to restore voting protections to guarantee fairness and equal representation in our elections.

This is about preserving the promise of American democracy itself. I call on every American to organize, to educate your friends, neighbors, and colleagues on what is at stake and to vote.

As we head into November, House Democrats will work with the civil rights and voting rights advocates, legal experts, and grassroots organizers to defend American democracy.

When people come together to fight for justice, history shows us that justice ultimately wins, and Democrats will never stop fighting for it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personality toward the President.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF MANUEL "MANNY" DUENAS

(Mr. MOYLAN of Guam was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Manuel, best known as Manny, Duenas, a beloved son of Guam and one of the strongest voices our island has ever had for its fishing community.

For decades, Manny was more than the president of the Guam Fishermen's

Cooperative. To many, he was the face of the Hagatna Boat Basin and the heart of Guam's fishing industry.

Whether greeting fishermen before sunrise, helping them load the day's catch, or advocating at public meetings, Manny dedicated his life to protecting a way of life that has sustained our islands for generations.

He understood that fishing on Guam was about far more than commerce. It was culture. It was family. It was tradition. It was a connection between our people and the ocean that surrounds us.

Manny spent his life defending that connection. He championed local fishermen through challenging regulations, economic challenges, and environmental concerns.

He worked tirelessly to ensure that Guam's fishermen had a seat at the table and that their voices were heard whenever decisions affecting our waters were being made.

But perhaps what made Manny special was his belief in stewardship. Long before sustainability became a widely used term, he was teaching the importance of protecting our marine resources for future generations. He believed that preserving our waters and preserving our culture went hand in hand.

Those who knew Manny remember not only his determination, but also his warmth. He welcomed visitors, mentored young fishermen, shared stories, and helped countless people understand the importance of Guam's fishing heritage.

He was a teacher, an advocate, a leader, and a friend.

Today, Hagatna Boat Basin will feel a little quieter. The fishermen who worked beside him, the families who relied on him, and the community he served so faithfully will deeply feel his absence.

Yet, his legacy remains. It remains in the stronger fishing community he helped build. It remains in generations of fisherman he inspired, and it remains in the waters he worked so hard to protect for those who will follow.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend my deepest condolences to Manny's family, friends, and the entire Guam fishing community. I thank him for a lifetime of service, leadership, and dedication to our island.

May he rest in peace and may his legacy continue to guide future generations of Guam's fishermen.

"Thank you, Manny"; "Si Yu'os Ma'ase', Manny."

□ 1215

#### RECOGNIZING FRANK RABON

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master of Chamoru Dance Frank Rabon of Guam, who was recently named a 2026 National Heritage Fellow by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Nation's highest honor in folk and traditional arts.

For more than 40 years, Frank Rabon has dedicated his life to preserving and