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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. GUEST).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

July 14, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL GUEST 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.

### OUR GENERATION'S LEGACY

(Mr. MCCLINTOCK of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of our Nation's 250th birthday, Zohran Mamdani sat at George Washington's desk and painted a dystopian picture of America: an oligarchy based on exploitation, discrimination, nativism, and bondage.

Stripping away the anti-American rhetoric, he seemed to make three general points: First, that America is so racist and xenophobic that many insist

it "belongs only to those with the right accent or the right shade of skin." Yet, even as he spoke these words, foreign soccer fans with every accent and skin shade flooded social media to tell of their delight at the openness, hospitality, prosperity, happiness, abundance, and big-heartedness of middle America.

Indeed, America welcomes more foreign immigrants than any other country in the world, but we insist that those who come to America do so with a sincere desire to become loyal Americans, to adopt a common language, a common culture, and a common appreciation of American constitutional principles and traditions, and to raise their children to revere and appreciate this country. It is called assimilation. It is why we have immigration laws. That is the only way to build one great Nation and one great people from all the nations and people of the world.

Illegal immigration destroys that process. Mamdani, like so many on the left, obstruct our immigration laws and vilify those who enforce them. Yet, if we don't enforce our immigration laws, then we have no immigration laws. Without immigration laws, we have no border. Without a border, we have no country. Is it possible Mamdani does not understand this or is this his ultimate aim?

His second point is that American exceptionalism derives not from the principles of liberty proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence, but, rather, that these principles can be exchanged for others, and Mr. Mamdani has one in mind—socialism.

However, freedom and socialism are two antithetical and incompatible things. Our fundamental natural rights as human beings come to us either from God or from government. If from God—the right to chart our own course through life, develop our own talents, supply our own industry, and enjoy the fruit of our own labors—they are a birthright and are inalienable.

If these rights come from government, then they can be extended or withdrawn at the whim of those in power. Mr. Mamdani and his friends will decide how much you may earn, where and how you can live, which groups will receive the favors of government and which will be denied them, who must live under the law and who can live above it, even the temperature that you must set your thermostat.

Wherever the socialists take control, we see this fundamental change, and there is nothing exceptional about it. It is the consistent product of socialist regimes: confiscatory taxes, chronic shortages of basic necessities, rampant homelessness, rising crime, bitter racial strife, failing schools, shuttered businesses, and ultimately, fleeing families.

His third point is that our founding principles create inequalities so vast that in America "children go to sleep hungry, while the world's first trillionaire hungers for more."

Well, no one starves in America. Indeed, the poorest Americans today are wealthier than the vast majority of mankind. Yes, in America extraordinary individuals, including legal immigrants, can achieve extraordinary success. The left loves to dehumanize them as oligarchs. Their vast fortunes were made because consumers found value in their products and freely bought them. They have provided mankind with quantum leaps in technological progress that in turn produced the jobs and goods and services that provide Americans with a prosperity and standard of living unparalleled throughout the world. As John F. Kennedy reminded us: "A rising tide lifts all boats."

The true oligarchs are the socialists who use the power of government to plunder the earnings of productive Americans in order to enrich themselves and their acolytes. As Winston

□ 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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Churchill warned: "The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings. The inherent virtue of socialism is the equal sharing of miseries."

Mr. Speaker, if America follows Mr. Mamdani, it will not be the first civilization to succumb to the siren song of a benevolent, all-powerful government, but every civilization that has done so has awakened one morning to discover that the benevolence is gone and that the all-powerful government remains.

The American Founders feared that one day a generation might emerge that has lost the memory of freedom. Let that not be the legacy of our generation.

#### AN ICE OFFICER SHOT HIM

(Mr. VASQUEZ of New Mexico was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker,

Lorenzo Salgado, como cualquier papá, debió haber llegado a su casa, recibido por su esposa y sus hijos en la tarde del 7 de Julio.

Debió haberse sentado en su patio, como lo hacía cada tarde, escuchando su música, y jugando con su perro.

Pero Lorenzo no regresó ese día. Falleció a manos de ICE.

Lorenzo tenía 52 años. Pasó 35 de esos años construyendo casas en Houston—casas que para muchas familias, fueron su sueño Americano.

Lorenzo abrió su propio negocio. Y cuando alguien tocaba a su puerta buscando trabajo, Lorenzo le daba trabajo. Su hijo lo describe como un creador de empleos para mucha gente, trabajadores, igual que él.

Tenía tres hijos: un maestro, un ingeniero, y un joven que estudia ingeniería.

El siete de julio, Lorenzo se levantó antes del amanecer—como cada día de su vida. A las siete de la mañana, ya estaba trabajando: manejando su van llevando a su equipo a un sitio de construcción.

Lorenzo Salgado, like any father, should have arrived home, greeted by his wife and children on the afternoon of July 7th.

He should have sat in his backyard, as he did every afternoon, listening to his music and playing with his dog.

But Lorenzo didn't return that day. He died at the hands of ICE.

Lorenzo was 52 years old. He spent 35 of those years building houses in Houston—houses that, for many families, represented their American dream.

Lorenzo owned his own business. And when someone knocked on his door looking for work, Lorenzo gave them a job. His son describes him as a job creator for many people, workers, just like him.

He had three children: a teacher, an engineer, and a young man studying engineering.

On July 7th, Lorenzo got up before dawn—as he did every day of his life. By seven in the morning, he was already working: driving his van, taking his crew to a construction site.

And then, an ICE officer shot him. He wasn't even the man that they were looking for. And 7 days later we have

no body camera footage, no dash camera footage, and zero accountability. We don't even know the identity of the officers who were involved, but we do know that he was a father of three who worked overtime to provide for his family. He was killed on his way to work, and this administration expects us to take their word that this was a justifiable killing.

Desafortunadamente, no podemos hacer nada para curar el dolor la familia de Lorenzo.

Ni el dolor de la familia de Renée Good—madre, ciudadana estadounidense, asesinada en su carro en Minneapolis.

Ni por la familia de Alex Pretti—enfermero que cuidaba a nuestros veteranos, ciudadano Americano, matado mientras defendía a una mujer en la calle.

Ni por la familia del joven que ICE mató ayer en Biddeford, Maine—un joven cuyo nombre todavía ni siquiera conocemos. Pero alguien, en este momento, lo está esperando en casa. Y no va a llegar.

Unfortunately, we can do nothing to heal the pain of Lorenzo's family.

Nor the pain of Renée Good's family—a mother, an American citizen, killed in her car in Minneapolis.

Nor for the family of Alex Pretti—a nurse who cared for our veterans, an American citizen, killed while defending a woman in the street.

Nor for the family of the young man ICE killed yesterday in Biddeford, Maine—a young man whose name we still don't even know. But someone, right now, is waiting for him at home. And he's not coming.

We were told that this was about dangerous, violent criminals, that Trump's immigration enforcement was going to target the worst in this Nation, but instead it has made everyone unsafe: Latinos, for the way that we look, and any American who dares to stand in between them.

"Nobody," "nadie" is safe when armed agents answer to no one. This administration says Lorenzo was shot because he looked like someone they were searching for. Well, in America, there is no death penalty for looking like someone else and driving to work, and yet here we are.

Yo vengo de la frontera y de una familia de inmigrantes, y conozco a los Lorenzos de este país—en Texas, en Nuevo México, aquí en Washington, y a través del país. Se levantan antes del amanecer. Pizcan el chile en Hatch. Cuidan el ganado en nuestros campos. Construyen casas en Las Cruces, Albuquerque y Houston.

Y a esa comunidad, no le voy a decir solamente "los veo." Las palabras no detienen las balas. Les digo: vamos a pelear por ustedes. En esta cámara. En las cortes. Y marchando a su lado.

Lorenzo Salgado debió haber llegado a casa a su familia.

I come from the border and from a family of immigrants, and I know the Lorenzos of this country—in Texas, in New Mexico, here in Washington, and across the nation. They get

up before dawn. They pick chili peppers in Hatch. They tend cattle in our fields. They build homes in Las Cruces, Albuquerque, and Houston.

And to that community, I'm not just going to say, "I see you." Words don't stop bullets. I'm saying: We're going to fight for you. In this chamber. In the courts. And marching alongside you.

Lorenzo Salgado should have been home to his family.

Lorenzo cried out, "Me estan matando," "They are killing me." The "they" were ICE agents. The "they" was paid by your tax dollars. The "they" answers only to this administration. It does not answer to the people.

Later today, many in this Chamber will have the privilege of going home to dinner with their loved ones. Lorenzo Salgado Araujo should have had it, too.

En su honor—y en honor de Renée, de Alex, y del joven que perdimos ayer en Maine—no vamos a descansar hasa que cada familia en este país pueda esperar a los suyos en la mesa, sin miedo.

Y hoy doy este discurso en Español e Ingles, sin miedo, para reforzar que somos una nación de inmigrantes, y vamos a seguir siendo una nacion de inmigrantes.

In his honor—and in honor of Renée, Alex, and the young man we lost yesterday in Maine—we will not rest until every family in this country can wait for their loved ones at the table, without fear.

And today I give this speech in Spanish and English, without fear, to reinforce that we are a nation of immigrants, and we will continue to be a nation of immigrants.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will provide a translation of his remarks.

#### CELEBRATING 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY ACT OF 1956

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th anniversary of President Dwight D. Eisenhower signing the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956.

President Eisenhower, a proud son of Abilene, Kansas, understood that a strong transportation network was essential to America's future. His vision for the Interstate Highway System helped fuel generations of America's growth.

In Kansas, we see that legacy every day. Interstate 70 runs through the heart of our State, connecting communities like Goodland, Colby, Quinter, Hays, Russell, Salina, Abilene, Manhattan, Topeka, Lawrence, and Kansas City. It helps farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, and first responders move through the center of America while serving as a lifeline for Kansas.

Seventy years later, President Eisenhower's legacy still reminds us that