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House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, it is good to give thanks to You as we start this day. O Lord most high, we pause to give praise to Your name. This morning, may we begin our work declaring Your steadfast love so that by day's end we will bear witness to Your faithfulness.

Establish us upon Your sure foundation. Orient us to Your presence in our everyday affairs and to Your engagement in every aspect of our lives, that we may realize that there is nothing that escapes Your attention. You have Your hand on all that transpires in this room.

Where there is uncertainty, may we look to You for guidance. Where there is misunderstanding, may we open our hearts to Your wisdom. Where there is falsehood, reveal Your truth. Where there is disagreement, supply us with words of reconciliation, and where there is animosity, show us how to invite Your peace into our discourse.

Lord, You alone are upright. May we stand today on the rock of Your righteousness and pray in the strength of Your name.

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 Indiana (Mr. BAIRD) come forward

and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BAIRD 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA FFA STATE OFFICERS

(Mr. BAIRD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate two State FFA officers from the Fourth District who were recently elected at the Indiana State convention.

FFA is the largest U.S. career and technical student organization. FFA is rooted in farming and preparing youth for careers in agribusiness, science, veterinary medicine, and using hands-on learning techniques.

Katie McClain from Carroll High School was elected as secretary. She is the granddaughter of a former Indiana State representative, Rich McClain, who I had the privilege of serving with.

She is the 2026 Lilly Scholar winner, which has a full ride to Purdue University. Katie was the president of her local FFA chapter at Carroll and the district vice president last year.

Jessie Frazee from Fountain Central High School was elected as the Northern Region vice president. Jessie was the local FFA president at Fountain Central High and the Fourth District president this past year. Jessie is the first Fountain FFA chapter member to become a State officer.

Congratulations to these two amazing Hoosiers. I think they are in the

audience. If they are, I ask that they please raise their hand or stand.

I congratulate them.

HONORING MAXINE PEACOCK HOLLEY

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

Mr. MOORE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and memory of Maxine Peacock Holley, a devoted public servant of Benson, North Carolina, who passed away at the age of 82.

Maxine dedicated her life to serving others as a teacher's aide, a magistrate judge, and a Benson town commissioner. She was a trailblazer. She was the first woman to chair the Benson Housing Authority and made history as Johnston County's first successful write-in candidate elected to public office.

With deep faith, Maxine showed what it means to love your neighbor. Even while battling cancer, she continued to serve with grace and an unwavering commitment to others.

Above all, Maxine was devoted to her family. She was a proud mother to Reggie, Nikita, and Shawn, and she instilled in them that same spirit of service.

Mr. Speaker, as we mourn her passing, we also celebrate a life well lived: a life of faith, a life of service, and a life of selflessness. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering her and thanking her for her public service.

CALIFORNIA TAX INCREASE

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

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, many Californians were shocked to

□ 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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learn that our legislature and Governor have just imposed what is being called the largest tax increase in State history, which is saying quite a lot in a State that already has the highest taxes in the country.

Included in that is a massive new healthcare tax that is estimated to raise the healthcare premiums for many Californians by hundreds of dollars. This is something that our State simply cannot afford. When we already have the highest cost of living in the country, this is the last thing that our families need.

What is more, it violates, at the very least, the spirit if not the letter of Proposition 35, passed by voters to limit precisely this kind of a tax increase.

Fortunately, there is a way we can fight back. This new change has to be approved by regulators at the Federal level, and so myself and my colleagues are asking HHS—and we will be conveying this in a letter—specifically to block the implementation of this plan, to block this tax proposal so that Californians do not suffer another blow to both our democracy and our cost of living.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCGUIRE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

ANTHONY “TONY” J. GALLOPO VA CLINIC

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6007) to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Newton, New Jersey, as the “Anthony ‘Tony’ J. Gallopo VA Clinic”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6007

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NAME OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC, NEWTON, NEW JERSEY.

The Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Newton, New Jersey, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the “Anthony ‘Tony’ J. Gallopo VA Clinic”. Any reference to such clinic in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be considered to be a reference to the Anthony “Tony” J. Gallopo VA Clinic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) and the gentleman

from New Jersey (Mr. CONAWAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 6007.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 6007 to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Newton, New Jersey, as the Anthony “Tony” J. Gallopo VA Clinic.

Tony Gallopo proudly served our Nation in the United States Navy. He served courageously and with honor. His service to our Nation did not end there.

Following his service in the Navy, Mr. Gallopo dedicated his life to serving his fellow veterans, working to ensure those who wore the uniform received the care and services and support they earned.

Mr. Gallopo became a trusted advocate for veterans throughout Sussex and Warren Counties, devoting countless hours to improving their quality of life and expanding access to VA healthcare.

□ 1110

He was instrumental in helping establish the VA community-based outpatient clinic in Newton, New Jersey, which opened in 2017 and brought VA healthcare closer to veterans in that community.

His advocacy helped reduce barriers to care and expand access to essential health services for countless numbers of veterans and their families. His community as a whole is better because of all his efforts.

Whether mentoring fellow veterans or advocating for expanding healthcare access, he remained committed to ensuring that those who served our Nation will never be forgotten. Even after decades of public service, he continued asking what more could be done for veterans until he passed in 2020.

By naming the Newton VA community-based outpatient clinic in his honor, Congress would ensure that Tony Gallopo’s legacy of service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the veterans in his community lives on for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, individuals like Tony Gallopo are heroes in our communities, and I am honored to help ensure that Congress recognizes that and never forgets these great American stories.

I thank Representative GOTTHEIMER and the entire New Jersey delegation for leading this effort to recognize an extraordinary advocate for our Nation’s veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 6007, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6007, to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Newton, New Jersey, after Anthony “Tony” Gallopo. I am pleased to have co-lead this effort with my colleague from New Jersey, Representative GOTTHEIMER, and pleased to speak in support of this bill today.

Mr. Gallopo was a keystone in the northern New Jersey community. Born in 1961, he grew up in Bergen County, New Jersey, and led a life dedicated to service. Mr. Gallopo was active in his local fire department before enlisting in the Navy.

After serving as a seaman, Mr. Gallopo returned home to become a leader locally in Sussex County, serving as vice commander of the New Jersey Department of The American Legion and commander at American Legion Post 86.

Mr. Gallopo was a tireless advocate, and his dedication to caring for his fellow veterans was unparalleled. Mr. Gallopo hosted roundtables for both students and returning veterans to help them succeed in seeking better job opportunities. His leadership in evaluating student applicants to our Nation’s service academies on his congressional district’s Service Academy Nomination Selection Committee helped to cultivate the next generation of servicemembers.

Mr. Gallopo was instrumental in the expansion of healthcare for veterans in his community. His advocacy helped lead to the opening of a Sussex County VA community-based outpatient clinic.

Mr. Gallopo’s critical role in opening this clinic will continue to benefit veterans in northern New Jersey for generations.

Mr. Gallopo passed away in 2020, but his memory lives on in the countless veterans who have access to healthcare within their local community because of his work. There is no better way to express our gratitude for Mr. Gallopo’s lifetime of service to his fellow veterans than to rename the clinic he tirelessly fought to open in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER), who is the author of this legislation. He serves on the House Financial Services Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my very good friend from New Jersey as well as my friends on the other side for their support.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 6007. Today, this House will come together and do something simple but important: honor a great American hero.

Mr. Speaker, Tony Gallopo, as you have heard, was a brave Navy veteran, vice commander of the New Jersey Department of The American Legion, and