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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOST).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 23, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE BOST to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

Ever-present God, there is no place we can go from Your spirit. There is no place we find ourselves where Your presence is not with us.

Abide with us as the week ends and as we take our leave from this place. May the work of these last several months receive Your blessing, and may the decisions in the days and weeks ahead of us remain in Your keeping.

We pray Your wisdom in our efforts to pursue the responsibilities You have laid upon us, and we ask for Your care and protection in times of rest and rejuvenation.

Lord, go before us and prepare the way, so that we will be ready to respond to Your guidance wherever You lead us. Lord, be with us; encourage and embolden us, so that we may be capable of meeting whatever chores or challenges we encounter. Never leave or forsake us, that we will always know that we are where You want us to be, as we seek to serve both You and this country faithfully.

In the sure and certain power of Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. GRIJALVA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. GRIJALVA 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

JIHADI VIOLENCE IN NIGERIA

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

Mr. JAMES. Nigeria is the deadliest place on Earth to be a Christian today. Since 2019, tens of thousands of Christians in Nigeria have been slaughtered as part of a sustained pattern of religiously motivated violence by jihadis, ignored or enabled by the Nigerian Government.

Extremist groups like Boko Haram are allowed to operate without any meaningful response from authorities.

A courageous leader named Mazi Nnamdi Kanu was convicted in a farce show trial for speaking out about what is happening. He is currently serving a life sentence in prison, convicted on false terrorism charges.

I implore my colleagues to support my resolution, H. Res. 1321 calling on the Nigerian Government to conduct another trial in accordance with its own Constitution based on: evidence, with access to legal counsel, medical care and international law pertaining to humane conditions of detention, or, better yet, release Mazi Nnamdi Kanu immediately and unconditionally.

America gives billions to Nigeria. We will not continue to fund a Christian genocide. We have the moral obligation to stand up so our Christian brothers and sisters can worship the Lord, our God, in peace.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROSEMARIE GUERRERO

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Rosemarie Guerrero of the United States National Guard as she retires after an extraordinary career dedicated to serving our Nation.

Lieutenant Colonel Guerrero started her brilliant career in 1989, when she enlisted in the Illinois Air National Guard. In her current role as Cyber Warfare Branch Chief, she oversees a \$205 million Cyber Mission Force portfolio and provides direct guidance on mobilization, training, resourcing, and posturing for the Air National Guard Cyber Mission Forces.

At a time when the Pentagon faces more than 10 million cyber intrusion attempts every single day, her work defending our country against cyberattacks has never been more important.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Lieutenant Colonel Guerrero for her decades of leadership, sacrifice, and service. I wish her a happy and well-deserved retirement.

□ 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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H5181

OHIO: NUMBER ONE STATE FOR BUSINESS

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

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the great State of Ohio, my home State, for being named the number one State for business. As someone who owned and operated manufacturing businesses in Ohio before coming to Congress, I know firsthand that our State's greatest asset is the hardworking, resilient, and dedicated people who power Ohio's economy and build up our communities that make Ohio thrive.

Ohio's number one ranking is a testament to the commitment that has propelled Ohio into national leadership in economic growth and opportunity that directly benefits our workers and our families.

Ohio's success didn't happen by accident. It reflects policies that encourage investment, reward innovation, and reduce unnecessary barriers to growth. When government gets out of the way, Americans do what they do best. They build their families, grow businesses, create jobs, and strengthen our communities.

Looking ahead, I know Ohio's business leaders, our Chamber of Commerce, and, most importantly, Ohioans themselves will continue to thrive. With God all things are possible, and that is especially true in the great State of Ohio.

HONORING OUR FALLEN TROOPS

(Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Private First Class Isabella Gonzales, First Lieutenant Tyler James Feehan, Sergeant Angel Rampersad, and Sergeant Michael Emmanuel Swinton.

Mr. Speaker, it has been 5 months since President Trump started his reckless war with Iran, 1 week since these young servicemembers lost their lives.

Isabella, only 19, was graduated from Hebron High School in Texas last year. Her friends remember her as outgoing and how she pushed herself through boot camp to prove her bravery.

Angel had a smile her loved ones say lit up every room she entered. She had plans to travel the world.

Tyler, at 25, leaves behind his family and a community at Southern Utah University. He was mere weeks away from finishing his MBA.

Michael leaves behind his wife Mia. In the last photo of Michael, he is holding his daughter in his arms before deployment.

Eighteen American troops are dead, and more than 400 are wounded, all in the name of an ill-conceived and ill-be-

gotten war. Dropping more bombs on Iran is no way to remember these heroes, and if our President won't say their names, I will.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MR. CONRADO "BETO" VILLEGAS

(Mrs. GRIJALVA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a remarkable Arizonan and celebrate the 100th birthday of Mr. Conrado "Beto" Villegas.

Reaching a century of life is an extraordinary milestone, and I was honored to join Mr. Villegas' family, friends, and neighbors in Nogales to celebrate this special occasion, highlighted by him taking over the dance floor with his wife at his birthday party.

Mr. Villegas is a proud World War II veteran whose courage and selfless service continue to inspire all of us. Like so many of his generation, he answered our Nation's call in a time of great need, helping defend the freedoms we cherish today. His service and his life remind us of the enduring values of sacrifice, resilience, and commitment to country and community.

I extend "mil gracias"; "1,000 thanks" to Beto for his service, his example, and the extraordinary legacy he has built over the past 100 years.

On behalf of the people of Arizona's Seventh Congressional District, I extend my heartfelt thanks and wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

"Feliz cumpleaños. Que Dios lo bendiga"; "Happy birthday. May God bless you."

□ 0910

HONORING MATT TREVENEN

(Ms. MEJIA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MEJIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of the newest inductees to the New Jersey Lacrosse Hall of Fame, Mr. Matt Trevenen.

A graduate of Montclair High School, he is one of the most decorated attackmen at Montclair. He was a two-time first team all-State selection, a two-time Lacrosse all-American, and a two-time New Jersey Attackman of the Year.

In 1998, Mr. Trevenen was named the Star-Ledger New Jersey State Player of The Year and the first player in State history to record two 100-point seasons.

He currently still holds or shares six individual Montclair records.

As if that wasn't enough, he went on to Princeton where he was a 3-year starter and a member of the 2001 NCAA championship team.

In 1999, he was one of five New Jersey players selected to the U.S.A. Lacrosse

U-19 National Team, which captured the World Championship in Adelaide, Australia.

Mr. Speaker, since retiring as a player, Mr. Trevenen dedicated himself as a coach and a leader in Glen Ridge, New Jersey. I rise to celebrate him.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EUGENE WILLIAMS

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Eugene Williams, a dear friend and colleague, who has passed away recently.

Eugene is the brother of my district director, Ms. Cherita Logan. Their family has been involved with our activities for more than 40 years.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank the family of Eugene for their engagement, involvement, and participation. May he rest in peace.

REMOVING BARRIERS TO WORK FOR DISABLED AMERICANS ACT

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1438, I call up the bill (H.R. 8884) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to reauthorize demonstration authority for the disability insurance program, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1438, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means, printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print at 119-34 is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 8884

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Removing Barriers to Work for Disabled Americans Act".

SEC. 2. TEMPORARY REAUTHORIZATION OF DISABILITY INSURANCE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY.

(a) *TERMINATION DATE.*—Section 234(d)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 434(d)(2)) is amended by striking "December 31, 2021, and the authority to carry out such projects shall terminate on December 31, 2022" and inserting "December 31, 2030, and the authority to carry out such projects shall terminate on December 31, 2031".

(b) *AUTHORITY TO WAIVE COMPLIANCE WITH BENEFITS REQUIREMENTS.*—Section 234(c) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 434(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking "December 30, 2021" and inserting "December 31, 2030";

(2) by striking "90 days" and inserting "120 days"; and

(3) by inserting after "the expected annual and total costs," the following: "evaluation metrics to be used with respect to the experiment or demonstration project,".