

Mr. Speaker, Nancy's successful stewardship of the ACA rollout was not her only achievement as Lieutenant Governor. She was truly a partner, not an acolyte, to Governor Dan Malloy. Their passage of the Connecticut State budget in 2017, with fiscal guardrails, established the pathway to budget stability that reversed decades of chronic deficits into a string of surpluses and has completely transformed Connecticut's public finances into positive territory.

Her record in public service, though, was not only defined by good administration and policy but also by the way she carried herself in high position, showing respect and empathy to all that she ever came into contact with.

It didn't matter whether a person was a constituent or not, or what political party they belonged to, she was warm and polite and found ways to build connections and, in most cases, friendships.

□ 1215

It goes without saying, her example is a powerful one, in 2026, when polarization and political tribalism is far too prevalent.

She did, however, show favoritism, and that was to her beautiful family: her husband, Michael, of 59 years; her two daughters, Stacey Papa and Meryl Baldwin, and their husbands, Steve and Bill; their five grandchildren; and many more relations who are carrying a heavy burden of grief because of her passing.

They did have great support on August 16th when hundreds and hundreds of her admirers and friends showed up at her wake, expressing their love and appreciation for the contributions Nancy's family made to her impactful life.

I particularly thank the town manager of Tolland, Brian Foley, who showed so much care and compassion to help Nancy's family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in a similar recognition and express our condolences to Nancy's family for their loss.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Rabbi Shlomo Litvin, Chabad of the Bluegrass, Lexington, Kentucky, offered the following prayer:

O God and God of our fathers, great, mighty, and revered.

God, we come before You today as this honorable body reconvenes in the 250th year of our exceptional Nation, which was conceived in liberty and founded on the belief in a moral creator.

On the Jewish calendar, today is Chai, or the 18th of Elul, the birthday of two foundational Jewish leaders, the Baal Shem Tov and the Baal HaTanya Zalman of Liadi, who spread wellsprings of Godly light across the world, carried on here in America by Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

God, I invoke Your blessing today upon this body, the House of Representatives of the United States of America, who gather today in observance of one of Your seven Noahide universal laws for all mankind to establish just statutes.

Strengthen them to uphold America's values, to stand against terrorism and evil, to proclaim liberty throughout the land, to spread wellsprings of light as the Rebbe taught, immediately to repentance, immediately to redemption, from sea to shining sea and beyond until the promised era of true liberty.

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 Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania 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.

NATIONAL PURPLE HEART MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Purple Heart Month, a dedicated time to express our gratitude to the brave men and women who have sacrificed blood, body, and mind.

This month serves as a reminder that our freedom is thanks to those who served and those who died in uniform.

Earlier this month, on August 7, which is Purple Heart Day, I attended a memorial in Union County to recognize our wounded warriors who have received the Purple Heart.

The Purple Heart, inscribed with the phrase "For Military Merit" represents

the courage of these servicemembers and is a direct reflection of the bravery of an estimated 1.8 million men and women who have received this distinction.

As a proud Army dad of a former soldier who has a Purple Heart, I know the sacrifices our military members and their families make to protect our flag. This is why I am proud to support the Purple Heart Foundation, an incredible organization that puts our veterans first.

Mr. Speaker, I thank our Nation's veterans for the commitment to country. God bless our veterans, and God bless the United States.

SUPPORTING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM AND UNITED STATES

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

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1492, our bipartisan resolution reaffirming the enduring partnership between the Pacific Islands Forum and the United States.

The United States is a Pacific nation. We share deep and longstanding ties and values with the peoples of the Pacific.

The Pacific Islands Forum, currently 18 members strong, has served since 1971 as the Pacific's premier multilateral political and economic organization, advancing shared priorities, including regional security, economic development, and disaster resilience.

The United States has partnered with the PIF for decades to pursue our shared goals of a peaceful, secure, resilient, and prosperous Pacific.

As Pacific leaders gather in Palau for the 55th PIF leaders meeting, we wish the PIF continued success and express Congress' firm resolve that the United States will remain a strong, reliable, and active partner in the Blue Pacific.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support and cosponsor our resolution.

SOCIALISM IS A THREAT TO FAITH, FAMILY, AND SMALL BUSINESS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, since its founding 250 years ago, America has fought to defend personal freedoms for each citizen.

Sadly, socialism is gaining in popularity. Warning signs are growing within the Democratic Party. Socialism puts government in control, replacing faith, families, and small businesses, destroying jobs. It gives all power to the elite of Big Government.

Only 54 percent of Americans view capitalism positively, the lowest level recorded compared with 39 percent who viewed socialism positively, revealing

ignorance of history. Socialism now holds a 24-point lead over capitalism among Democrats.

Former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher explained that the problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other people's money.

America should continue freedom over control, not Big Government.

In conclusion, God bless our troops. President Donald Trump is reconstituting peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies, insulting Trump and mocking Trump, leading Trump to support the Lindsey Graham Russian Sanctions Act, which successfully passed in the Senate with the leadership of Senator DARLINE GRAHAM and should come before the House any day.

WHERE IS THE BEEF?

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I stand with the cattle producers of eastern North Carolina and those across America who work hard every day to put American beef on our tables.

Family farmers should not have to compete against a surge of foreign beef that could pressure domestic markets and threaten their livelihoods. With as much as 300,000 metric tons of beef entering the United States over the next 90 days, cattlemen have every right to be upset.

I met with eastern North Carolina cattle producers to hear their concerns and discuss how we can protect family farms, ensure fair competition, and strengthen our domestic beef industry.

American ranchers work hard to feed our families and strengthen our rural communities, and they deserve respect and a fair shot in the marketplace.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1531

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ONDER) at 3 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

HERSHEL "WOODY" WILLIAMS NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR MONUMENT LOCATION ACT

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 858) to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work on the National Mall to honor the extraordinary acts of valor, selfless service, and sacrifice displayed by Medal of Honor recipients.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 858

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 "Hershel 'Woody' Williams National Medal of Honor Monument Location Act".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR MONUMENT LOCATION.

(a) SITE.—Notwithstanding section 8908(c) of title 40, United States Code, the commemorative work authorized by section 1(a) of Public Law 117-80 (40 U.S.C. 8903 note) shall be located within the Reserve (as defined in section 8902(a) of title 40, United States Code).

(b) APPLICABILITY OF COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.—Except as provided in subsection (a), chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Commemorative Works Act"), shall apply to the commemorative work.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 858, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as Americans across the country celebrate our Nation's 250th anniversary this year, it is important to recognize that none of this would be possible without the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces. That is why the consideration of S. 858 is especially timely today, as it honors the valor and sacrifice of some of our Nation's bravest heroes: Medal of Honor recipients.

Mr. Speaker, 163 years ago, President Abraham Lincoln awarded the first Medal of Honor in the midst of the Civil War. It remains our Nation's

highest honor awarded to members of the Armed Forces and is bestowed sparingly on only those who have demonstrated the highest acts of valor. Fewer than 70 Medal of Honor recipients are alive today out of the more than 3,500 medals that have been awarded.

As the highest and most prestigious military decoration in the United States, the Medal of Honor symbolizes extraordinary acts of bravery, selflessness, and sacrifice beyond the call of duty.

By recognizing these remarkable individuals, the Medal of Honor inspires national pride, honors the memory of fallen heroes, and motivates future generations to embody the values of courage and honor.

The Medal of Honor continues to symbolize the American people's profound respect and gratitude for the sacrifices recipients have made defending freedom and justice. The Hershel "Woody" Williams National Medal of Honor Monument Location Act would ensure that the monument honoring these brave heroes can be placed on what is known as the Reserve, which is commonly referred to as The National Mall here in Washington, D.C.

A monument honoring our most exceptional military heroes deserves an equally exceptional location. According to National Park Service data, The National Mall receives upward of 25 million visitors each year. The monuments and memorials located on The National Mall are the centerpiece of this history, and it is appropriate to include a new monument honoring veterans who have displayed the most courageous acts of valor recognized by our country.

In my home State of Arkansas, our State capital also has a memorial dedicated to Medal of Honor recipients. I hope the monument in D.C., like the one in Arkansas, can inspire reflection, patriotism, and gratitude for our Nation's military heroes.

Last Congress, the Committee on Natural Resources had the privilege of hearing from one of the 65 living Medal of Honor recipients, Master Chief Special Warfare Operator Britt Slabinski. In his inspiring testimony, he reminded us that the Medal of Honor represents those willing to go above and beyond in any circumstance, no matter how small.

This monument will serve as an everlasting reminder of this country's greatness and the difference that one single person can make. As an example of the difference one singular person can make on the course of history, I note that this bill has been named after Hershel "Woody" Williams, who, sadly, passed away in June 2022.

He was known for his extraordinary heroism in the Battle of Iwo Jima during the Second World War. At the age of 21, he singlehandedly cleared a path for American troops against Japanese forces in an act of extraordinary bravery.