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House of Representatives

The House met at 11 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,
September 1, 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:

Sovereign Lord, we want to be holy, set apart for You, to glorify You in the work that we do and by the lives we lead. Almighty Lord, we want to be in fellowship with You, faithful to You, to shine forth Your truth in every thought that enters our minds and each word that comes from our mouths throughout this day.

In offering our prayers to You, may we realize that to hope for Your answer, we cannot behave as we like, without any regard for Your desire for righteousness. We cannot twist truth and rely on clever deceptions and not give attention to the light of truth to which You hold us each accountable.

On this day, may we prove rigorous in holding fast to our honesty, committed to maintaining our integrity, and constant in our moral inventory. Thus, may our lives be a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to You and worthy of Your intentions for this day.

In view of Your mercy and in the hope of Your grace, 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 Washington (Ms. STRICKLAND) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. STRICKLAND 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

(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, today I highlight Penn State University, which delivered its 1-millionth degree earlier this summer.

This historic milestone reflects the university's commitment to excellent innovation and student success.

Since the university's founding more than 170 years ago, graduates have become leaders in their communities. Penn State alumni are dedicated to serving others.

The 1 million degrees is more than just a statistic. This is an achievement

that reflects 1 million dreams of attending university, 1 million new opportunities, and 1 million graduates who have impacted the world.

As a graduate of Penn State, I am proud to be a part of the 1 million students who have earned a degree from this remarkable institution.

Penn State, the Commonwealth's only land-grant university, has its eyes on the next goal. Students are always pushing boundaries, and I am excited to see the next milestone that this great university reaches.

RESTORING PUBLIC TRUST

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, in July, ICE arrested 50,000 people. To put this in perspective, this could fill up Madison Square Garden more than twice over.

The arrests in July are not because ICE is exclusively seeking out dangerous criminals harming our communities. This is because people are being ripped away from their loved ones at traffic stops and medical visits by State and local law enforcement officials who have been enlisted to operate as assistants to ICE's campaign, all while eroding the trust that community members should have in their local law enforcement.

To top it off, ICE is carrying out these raids using taxpayer dollars that could otherwise go to quelling the affordability crisis, strengthening American jobs, and aiding our economy during the President's costly war with Iran.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to rein in this out-of-control agency and work to restore public trust in local law enforcement agencies.

□ 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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CONGRATULATING AMBASSADOR CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

(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, I rise today to congratulate the Ambassador Christian School football team from Huntersville, North Carolina, on an impressive victory in Dublin, Ireland.

These student-athletes traveled across the Atlantic to represent North Carolina in the Global Ireland Football Tournament, where they took on Grapevine Faith Christian School from Texas.

I am pleased to report the Ambassador Christian Lions came away with a 24-point victory, putting their hard work and dedication on full display.

Ambassador Christian School opened its doors in 2024, and this football program is already making its mark.

Mr. Speaker, the players and coaches represented Huntersville, North Carolina, and the United States with great pride. I look forward to seeing what this team accomplishes next. Congratulations and go Lions.

I would be remiss, Mr. Speaker, if I did not point out that they were not the only North Carolina team that dealt a defeat to a Texas school in Ireland. I would just simply say God bless America and go Heels.

HONORING BRUCE JAMES

(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 today to honor the life and legacy of Passaic County commissioner and my friend Bruce James.

Bruce served as a county commissioner for over 20 years and previously served as a union leader at the Passaic County Board of Social Services.

Bruce was a lifelong champion of working people and was integral to our fight to raise the minimum wage in New Jersey. For two decades, he showed up for our community for stronger parks, safer streets, and a county government that met families on their hardest days. He sat across that desk himself, and he never forgot it.

Bruce did this work because he believed that working people deserved dignity, respect, and a government that fights for them as hard as they fight for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, we carry forward Bruce's fight and his legacy with love.

RECOGNIZING SLOVAK REPUBLIC CONSTITUTION DAY

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

Mr. HURD of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 1 as Constitution Day of the Slovak Republic, commemorating the adoption of Slovakia's Constitution in 1992.

A constitution is more than a legal document. It is a people's decision to govern themselves under law and to place limits on the power of government.

That principle has a particular meaning in Slovakia. Following decades of Communist rule, the Slovak people helped build a free, democratic republic grounded in constitutional government and in the rule of law.

Today, Slovakia is a friend and NATO ally of the United States. Our Nations share strong ties in security, trade, energy, and diplomacy. Generations of Slovak Americans have made that friendship deeper still.

Mr. Speaker, on Constitution Day, I congratulate the Slovak people and celebrate the freedom, self-government, and enduring friendship that bind our two nations.

HONORING ELLERY CHOKE

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

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Ellery "Ken" Choke, the chairman of the Nisqually Indian Tribe, who passed away on August 4, 2026.

Chairman Choke was born on February 25, 1964, in Centralia, Washington, and served as chairman of the Nisqually Tribe from 2018 to 2021 and was reelected chairman in 2024.

Chairman Choke was a respected and beloved leader who placed his community at the center of service. He was dedicated to protecting the land, water, salmon, and people of the Nisqually Tribe for generations to come. He will be remembered for his tireless service and commitment to his Tribal nation and to the South Sound community at large.

I was personally pleased to work with him on our efforts to transfer the Clear Creek Hatchery from U.S. Fish and Wildlife to Tribal ownership. I remain committed to honoring his legacy by moving this project forward and making it reality.

I am hopeful that his dedication to ensuring Tribal treaty rights, protecting our natural resources, and boosting salmon species in our region will continue on through those he knew.

He made South Sound, the State of Washington, and the Nation better; and he will be deeply missed. He is survived by his wife, eight children, and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in a moment of silence and hold Chairman Choke's family, loved ones, and the entire Nisqually Tribe of Indians in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

□ 1110

HONORING COACH ED KARPOVICH

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

Mr. BRESNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Ed Karpovich, who retired last month from the University of Scranton golf team after an extraordinary 44 years as head coach.

He leaves a lasting mark on countless athletes, including myself, who had the privilege of learning from him. Before coaching, Ed was a distinguished golfer for the University of Scranton Royals, and in 1982, he came back to lead the team, transforming the program into a powerhouse.

During his coaching career, he led the team to over 400 wins in dual matches, a MAC title, and two landmark conference titles. Ed used his love of golf to cofound the Glenmaura National Collegiate Invitational, which draws talent from all over the country, including watching Chris Shank land a 40-foot putt.

Most of all, he understood that above being a coach, he was a teacher and a mentor. He not only invested in his student-athletes as players, he developed them as people, instilling excellence on the course and in all facets of life.

I am honored to have played for Coach Karpovich, to have learned from him, and to call him a mentor.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Coach Karpovich on an extraordinary career and thank him for the lasting impact he has had on generations of student-athletes in northeastern Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING AIS RADIANCE PROGRAM

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Labor Day, we should remember that the strength of our workforce can't just be measured by the jobs we create, but also by who we choose to include.

The Radiance Program, established by AIS of Leominster, Massachusetts, is a shining example of how businesses can unlock opportunities for people with physical, intellectual, and developmental challenges.

I thank Nick Haritos, Deanna Zarrella, Richard Marchand, and the entire team at AIS for their dedication to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I especially celebrate the young adults in the Radiance Program. Their hard work, determination, and willingness to learn new skills is truly inspiring. They are building careers, gaining confidence, and strengthening the teams and communities around them.

Programs like this make a huge difference, and I hope others follow the