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No. 10

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WITTMAN).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 14, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROBERT J. WITTMAN 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.

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF AMERICAN PERSEVERANCE

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, 250 years ago, history was marked by patriots who proved that freedom belongs to the people; not the powerful.

This year, our Nation will celebrate 2½ centuries of freedom not granted by kings or governments but endowed by God.

America's story is unmatched. It is a story of perseverance, faith, sacrifice, and self-government. From Lexington

and Concord to the present day, generation after generation has answered the call to preserve this great experiment in liberty.

As we approach America's 250th birthday, we have much to celebrate. We celebrate the principles enshrined in our founding documents: limited government, individual liberty, personal responsibility, and the rule of law. We celebrate a Constitution strong enough to endure great challenges, and we celebrate people who have always risen to meet the moment when freedom was tested. Through it all, the Nation persevered.

Kansans know the story very well. Our statehood was forged in the fire of that very struggle. Kansas entered the Union as a free State, shaped by men and women who believed deeply that liberty was worth fighting for.

Kansas didn't just inherit freedom; they helped to defend it. From the frontier to the heartland, Kansas has always stood on the side of opportunity, hard work, and moral clarity.

Over the course of our Nation's history, Kansas farmers and ranchers helped to feed a growing nation. Kansas innovators helped to fuel our economy. Kansas servicemembers answered the call in every major conflict to protect this country at home and abroad. The values that built Kansas—faith, grit, service, and responsibility—are the same values that built America.

Those patriotic values were embodied by Kansans like President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Senator Bob Dole, whose leadership helped to guide America through defining moments in our history and shape the course of the Nation.

As we reflect on 250 years of our Nation's history, this anniversary is not only about looking back, but it is about looking forward and deciding what comes next. The next chapter of the American story requires strong leadership. It requires leaders who be-

lieve in this country, who aren't afraid to defend its principles, and who understand that with hard work and prayer, America's best days are yet to come.

I am grateful that, as we approach this historic anniversary, we once again have strong leadership in the White House from President Donald Trump.

President Trump leads with confidence in America's greatness. He believes in secure borders, strong families, energy dominance, and an economy that rewards work. He understands that, both at home and abroad, American strength is not something to apologize for but something to preserve and protect. American strength makes the world a better place.

The world is watching as America is led by a President who puts our country first and is not afraid to stand up for the values that have defined us for 250 years. He believes in the American experiment, and his commitment to celebrating our Nation's history brings out patriotism in all of us.

Mr. Speaker, America's 250th anniversary should not just be a celebration. It should be a recommitment: a recommitment to the ideals that launched this Nation; a recommitment to the Constitution that binds us together through popular sovereignty; a recommitment to the faith in God that has steered us through stormy seas time and time again; and a recommitment to ensuring that the next generation inherits a country that is freer, stronger, and more prosperous than the one we inherited.

From the Big First District of Kansas to every corner of this great Nation, Americans are proud of our past and hopeful for our future.

May we honor those who came before us, rise to the responsibilities of 250 years of independence, and ensure that the United States of America remains the greatest Nation on Earth for centuries to come.

□ 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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AUTHORITY WITHOUT ACCOUNTABILITY

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today with both anger and urgency.

What we are witnessing in this country is not law enforcement. It is violence followed by lies. It is authority without accountability.

Since Trump returned to power, at least 36 people have died in ICE custody, and 2 have been shot and killed by ICE agents. These are not just numbers. They are lives, people with families. We must say their names, tell their stories, and stop state-sanctioned violence.

Last week in Minneapolis, a 37-year-old American mother, Renee Good, was killed by an ICE agent. It was caught on video for the world to see. Almost immediately, the lies began.

DHS Secretary Kristi Noem said that Renee Good posed an imminent threat, even floating the words "domestic terrorism." Yet, the facts don't back this up. Eyewitnesses don't back this up. The video doesn't back up the lies repeated by DHS immediately after the killing.

State law enforcement in Minnesota have been blocked from the vehicle where Renee was killed because the FBI sealed it off, blocking transparency and accountability.

Renee Good's murder is not an isolated incident. In my community, we know this pattern all too well. In September, Silverio Villegas Gonzalez, a father of two, was killed by ICE on the side of a road in my district after dropping off his kids at school. Right on cue, we got the same script: immediate vague allegations by DHS, lies instead of facts, no transparency, no accountability, and no respect for the family left behind.

There was also Marimar Martinez, another constituent. An ICE agent shot her five times and then arrested her. ICE leveled serious criminal accusations to justify it. Later, quietly, those charges were dropped. Why? It was because they were lies, but the damage was done. Her name was dragged through the mud. Her family was terrorized. Her community is still shaken.

This was how a teacher in our community was victimized, and it didn't stop there.

Juan Espinoza Martinez, also from my district, was accused of serious conspiracy to commit crimes that never happened. ICE made them up and publicly smeared his name. Those charges were dropped as well because they were false. There was no apology, no discipline, and no consequences.

ICE acts first and then lies. The lie sets the frame. The truth is forced to play defense.

In 2025, Republicans gave ICE \$75 billion, a nearly 300 percent increase in its annual budget, at the same time that they stripped millions of Ameri-

cans of their healthcare. Republicans now want to give ICE and Border Patrol even more money.

We are asked to fund an agency that does the following: sends masked agents into communities like my neighborhood to use loaded guns and tear gas against our neighbors. It arrests people without warrants. It engages in obscene racial profiling and discrimination that communities see clearly, even when Washington looks away. It stops Members of Congress from inspecting detention centers, which is their duty as a coequal branch of government.

These facts should outrage every Member of this House. If you believe in the rule of law, you should be furious. If you believe in congressional oversight, you should be furious. If you believe that Federal agencies should not lie to justify violence, you should be furious because when an agency lies to the public, lies to the courts, and lies to Congress, they are spitting in our faces.

This is not about being for or against immigration enforcement. This is about whether we tolerate violence followed by coverups. This is about whether or not we accept fabricated charges as a means of intimidation.

HONORING JHONIER DANIEL MARIN

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a McAllen native, Firefighter Sergeant Jhonier Daniel Marin.

Sergeant Marin's life is defined by answering the call to service. At age 18, he joined the U.S. Army Reserve. By age 19, he was a certified Texas firefighter. From overseas operations to the front lines of our own southern border in Eagle Pass, Texas, Sergeant Marin has selflessly protected our great country.

His leadership is exceptional. Out of 25,000 troops, Sergeant Marin was 1 of only 13 selected to be honored by President Trump in the Oval Office this past December, where he received the new Mexican Border Defense Medal.

Today, he continues to protect his community as a firefighter for the city of Mission.

I congratulate Sergeant Marin on this recognition and thank him for his unwavering service to south Texas and our Nation.

HONORING ESTELA RODRIGUEZ

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Estela Rodriguez of the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office on her retirement after 32 years of service. For over three decades, Sergeant Rodriguez has not only been a dedicated member of law enforcement but also a mentor and a leader.

Through her work to create the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Women's Empowerment Conference, she opened doors for the next generation of female

officers, instilling confidence in the women who will follow in her footsteps. Her legacy is not just the badge worn but the countless officers who stand taller today because of her.

Sergeant Rodriguez leaves behind a department and a community that are better because of her work. We thank her for 32 years of selfless service, and we wish her a long and well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE UTRGV VAQUEROS FOOTBALL TEAM

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the UTRGV Vaqueros for finishing their inaugural season with nine wins, including all seven home games, making the Vaqueros the winningest first-year program in football championship series history.

The team proved that the Rio Grande Valley is a football powerhouse. Every home game, fans across the valley showed up to cheer on their team, selling out all seven home games and ranking top 15 for attendance among FCS teams across the Nation.

I congratulate the players, coaches, and the fans on a great season that put UTRGV football on the map and gave the valley a legacy that will not be forgotten. We are already looking forward to the next season.

V's up.

□ 1010

ICE SHOOTING OF RENEE NICOLE GOOD

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in grief and in outrage over the killing of an American citizen at the hands of the United States Government.

Her name was Renee Nicole Good. She was the mother of three, a devout Christian, a poet, a partner, a compassionate neighbor. She was a woman whose love for her community was only rivaled by the love that she had for her children. Those children will never hear their mother's voice again, feel her embrace, or have her by their side as they are growing into adulthood.

That is the human cost of what happened in Minnesota last week. Renee Good's life was taken by a Federal agency emboldened by this administration. Donald Trump and Kristi Noem have created an Immigration and Customs Enforcement with no oversight, no chain of command, no standards, and no restraint. They have created a lawless culture with no accountability, and a mother being shot at point-blank range is the consequence. That is not law enforcement. It is state violence.

The Department of Homeland Security was created to protect the American people and defend our Nation against terror. Under Secretary Noem, it has become a source of terror for the American people themselves. From