United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *119th* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 172 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026 *No. 161*

House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WITTMAN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 15, 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.

PRAYER

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

O Lord, our God, throughout Scripture, You have shown us the way we are to go and the paths we should take. Blessed are those, You have said, whose way is blameless, who walk in Your law.

But too often, we are inclined to wander, prone to leave the God we say we love. Confident in our own sense of direction, lured by the appeal of immediate pleasure, our hearts turn from You. We become lost in the distractions of our own devising and lose sight of the blessings You provide.

God, show us mercy. In our faithlessness, remind us that You are always faithful. Then may we turn our eyes back to You, seek You with our whole heart, and direct our lives in accordance with Your law. May we abide in Your righteous presence and respond to Your steadfast love in the living of these days.

In Your sovereign name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 14, 2026.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 14, 2026, at 2:35 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 227.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 837.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 997.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1190.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1550.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1703.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1744.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1945.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3620.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4307.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5235.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5284.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6380.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 7022.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 7730.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 7831.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8205.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8352.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 9496.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 10159.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 10167.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by Speaker pro tempore HOUCHIN on Wednesday, October 14, 2026:

H.R. 227, to allow a period in which members of the clergy may revoke their exemption from Social Security coverage, and for other purposes;

H.R. 837, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Pleasant Valley Ranger District Administrative Site to Gila County, Arizona;

H.R. 997, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to conform to the intent of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, as set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105–599, that the National Taxpayer Advocate be able to hire and consult counsel as appropriate;

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H.R. 1190, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to expand access to capital for rural-area small businesses, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1550, to redesignate Saratoga National Historical Park as Saratoga National Battlefield Park;

H.R. 1703, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify payment rules for manual wheelchairs under part B of the Medicare program;

H.R. 1744, to extend and authorize annual appropriations for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom through December 31, 2028;

H.R. 1945, to designate the America's National Churchill Museum National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3620, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southcentral Foundation located in Anchorage, Alaska, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4307, to direct the Secretary of Labor to train certain employees of Department of Labor how to effectively detect and assist law enforcement in preventing human trafficking during the course of their official duties, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5235, to amend title 41, United States Code, to prohibit minimum educational requirements for proposed contractor personnel in certain contract solicitations, and for other purposes;

H.R. 5284, to require the Social Security Administration to make changes to the social security terminology used in the rules, regulation, guidance, or other materials of the Administration;

H.R. 6380, to redesignate the Chiricahua National Monument in the State of Arizona as Chiricahua National Park, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7022, to provide for the transmission of emergency alerts by satellite, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7730, to amend title 11, United States Code, to modify certain bankruptcy eligibility requirements, and for other purposes;

H.R. 7831, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to extend the period of time during which the Secretary of the Interior is required to collect a fee for each new application for a permit to drill, and for other purposes;

H.R. 8205, to amend the Accelerating Access to Critical Therapies for ALS Act to reauthorize the provisions of such Act through fiscal year 2031, and for other purposes;

H.R. 8352, to authorize peace officer standards and training agencies to access criminal history records, and for other purposes;

H.R. 9496, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, and for other purposes;

H.R. 10159, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey to the State of North Carolina a certain parcel of real property located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on which the State shall construct a veterans' State home, and for other purposes;

H.R. 10167, to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to stop minting the penny, to require cash transactions to be rounded up or down to the nearest 5 cents, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mrs. HOUCHIN on Wednesday, October 14, 2026:

H.R. 227. An act to allow a period in which members of the clergy may revoke their exemption from Social Security coverage, and for other purposes.

H.R. 837. An act to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Pleasant Valley Ranger District Administrative Site to Gila County, Arizona.

H.R. 997. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to conform to the intent of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, as set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105–599 that the National Taxpayer Advocate be able to hire and consult counsel as appropriate.

H.R. 1190. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to expand access to capital for rural-area small businesses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1550. An act to redesignate Saratoga National Historical Park as Saratoga National Battlefield Park.

H.R. 1703. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify payment rules for manual wheelchairs under part B of the Medicare program.

H.R. 1744. An act to extend and authorize annual appropriations for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom through December 31, 2028.

H.R. 1945. An act to designate the America's National Churchill Museum National Historic Landmark, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3620. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southcentral Foundation located in Anchorage, Alaska, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4307. An act to direct the Secretary of Labor to train certain employees of Department of Labor how to effectively detect and assist law enforcement in preventing human trafficking during the course of their official duties, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5235. An act to amend title 41, United States Code, to prohibit minimum educational requirements for proposed contractor personnel in certain contract solicitations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5284. An act to require the Social Security Administration to make changes to the social security terminology used in the rules, regulation, guidance, or other materials of the Administration.

H.R. 6380. An act to redesignate the Chiricahua National Monument in the State of Arizona as Chiricahua National Park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7022. An act to provide for the transmission of emergency alerts by satellite, and for other purposes.

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H.R. 7831. An act to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to extend the period of time during which the Secretary of the Interior is required to collect a fee for each new application for a permit to drill, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8205. An act to amend the Accelerating Access to Critical Therapies for ALS Act to reauthorize the provisions of such Act through fiscal year 2031, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8352. An act to authorize peace officer standards and training agencies to access criminal history records, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9496. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, and for other purposes.

H.R. 10159. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey to the State of North Carolina a certain parcel of real property located at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on which the State shall construct a veterans' State home, and for other purposes.

H.R. 10167. An act to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to stop minting the penny, to require cash transactions to be rounded up or down to the nearest 5 cents, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Monday, October 19, 2026.

Thereupon (at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, October 19, 2026, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–4854. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-96; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4855. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-91; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4856. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-86; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4857. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-1J; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4858. A letter from the Acting Chief Administrative Officer, U.S. House of Representatives, transmitting the Statement of Disbursements of the House of Representatives covering the period July 1, 2026 to September 30, 2026 (H. Doc. No. 119—198); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows: