United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 172 WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026 *No. 159*

House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. HOUCHIN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 9, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ERIN HOUCHIN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend John Kellogg, Christ Church Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we are grateful for this land You have entrusted to our care, and we humbly thank You for calling us to be faithful stewards of it.

Bless all who serve our Nation in Congress, and bless the staffs and families who support them in that service. Guide them all with wisdom and care, granting clarity of mind, patience in deliberation, and strength to remain faithful to the work entrusted to them.

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.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. ERIN HOUCHIN TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH REMAINDER OF THE 119TH CONGRESS

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

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 9, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ERIN HOUCHIN to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through the remainder of the One Hundred Nineteenth Congress.

Sincerely,

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, 119th Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the House stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2026.

Thereupon (at 12 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the third quarter of 2026, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO SOUTH AFRICA, EXPENDED BETWEEN AUG. 19 AND AUG. 22, 2026

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Yvette Wissmann	8/19	8/22	South Africa		1,870.05		102.19				1,972.24
Zoe Oreck	8/19	8/22	South Africa		1,870.05		102.19				1,972.24
Chris Bien	8/19	8/22	South Africa		1,870.05		102.19				1,972.24
Xenia Ruiz	8/19	8/22	South Africa		1,870.04		102.19				1,972.23
Cullen Murphy	8/19	8/21	South Africa		1,380.37		102.18				1,482.55
Brian Cress	8/19	8/22	South Africa		1,870.03		102.19				1,972.22
Brenna Elliot	8/19	8/22	South Africa		1,870.03		102.19				1,972.22

☐ 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.

Printed on recycled paper.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO SOUTH AFRICA, EXPENDED BETWEEN AUG. 19 AND AUG. 22, 2026—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Emily Ackerman	8/19	8/22	South Africa		1,870.03		102.19				1,972.22
Committee total					14,470.65		817.51				15,288.16

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. STEVE SCALISE, Sept. 24, 2026.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2026

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

FOR HOUSE STAFF SIGNERS
Please check the box at the right to indicate that you are authorized by the Member to submit these Foreign Travel documents and to use the Member's signature on file with the Clerk. ☒

JACKSON BLODGETT, Oct. 1, 2026,
On Behalf Of: Chairman Glenn "GT" Thompson.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC–4851. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 26-064; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4852. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 26-090; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–4853. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 26-060; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 7683. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify and expand the authority of the Assistant Secretary for Management of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119–842). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 9718. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to maintain a website for small business concerns relating to onshoring manufacturing capacity, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119–843). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of tie Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 10329. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to disseminate information on foreign adversary conduct that poses material harm to small business concerns, and for other purposes (Rept. 119–844). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 10353. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to require a quarterly report on small business investment companies, and for other purposes (Rept. 119–845). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 10355. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish procedures for consistency of certain disaster loan outreach materials, and for otter purposes (Rept. 119–846). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 10371. A bill to direct the Associate Administrator for Veterans Business Development of the Small Business Administration to ensure compliance with certain reporting requirements, and for other purposes (Rept. 119–847). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 10375. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital, and for other purposes (Rept. 119–848). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 4615. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide interim partial payment to small business contractors that request an equitable adjustment due to a change in the terms of a construction contract, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119–849). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 10352. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to allow the Administrator of the Small Business Administration the authority to increase amount of commitments to qualified State or local development companies, and for otter purposes (Rept. 119–850). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

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:

By Mr. BARRETT:

H.R. 10768. A bill to establish the Office of Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technology Threats within the Executive Office of the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLAIR:

H.R. 10769. A bill to accommodate certain facilities within the right-of-way on any Federal-aid highway; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BRESNAHAN (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MANN, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida):

H.R. 10770. A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to temporarily limit the use of rebates under the 340B Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTER of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. MOSKOWITZ):

H.R. 10771. A bill to establish an emergency preparedness grant program for higher education institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. BELL, and Mr. QUIGLEY):

H.R. 10772. A bill to evaluate and invest in Ukrainian defense technologies; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CRANK:

H.R. 10773. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent governmental interference in the operation of private and religious schools; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself, Ms. DEXTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. TOKUDA):