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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 17, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, 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:

May it be pleasing to You, O Lord, to accept our prayer of petition, intercession, and thanksgiving for all who are and who have been in leadership of this Nation. On this President's Day weekend, we give thanks for the 45 men who have served in the country's highest office. Each—whether bold or plain, wise or querulous, admirable or flawed—has called us as Americans to an awareness of our part in the equation that is democracy, a democracy not sustained by one office alone but by the character and participation of each citizen.

So, in faithfulness to You and in stewardship of our responsibility, we lift up our voices to petition You for Your blessing upon our present government. Clothe President Trump with Your righteousness. Gird him with Your truth. Direct the steps he takes in the understanding of the peace that You desire. Grant him a humble spirit, mindful that all authority is entrusted and sustained by You.

Protect him from the arrowlike aim of evil's influence. Defend him with the sword that only Your spirit can wield with pure and holy effect.

Such are the intercessions we offer, for both the man who holds this office and for all who bear the mantle of responsibility for our Nation's direction. May each strive to ensure that all may live peaceful and quiet lives—lives deemed Godly and honorable in Your sight.

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.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the House stands adjourned until 11:30 a.m. on Friday, February 20, 2026.

Thereupon (at 11 o'clock and 3 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, February 20, 2026, at 11:30 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-2895. A letter from the President, transmitting notification that the national emergency with respect to Libya, that was declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011, and expanded in Executive

Order 13726 of April 19, 2016, is to continue in effect beyond February 25, 2026, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1255) (H. Doc. No. 119—131); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-2896. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the national emergency with respect to Cuba that was declared on March 1, 1996, in Proclamation 6867, and as amended, is to continue in effect beyond March 1, 2026, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1255) (H. Doc. No. 119—132); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

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. JORDAN: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1028. A bill to modify eligibility requirements for amateur sports governing organizations, with an amendment (Rept. 119-497). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 7396. A bill to establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-498). 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. 7588. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to require the attestation of certain information as part of the consumer complaint submission process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

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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