

PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Jim Birchfield, First Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, we give You thanks for the gift of this new day and for the promise that You are with us. Thank You for Your grace, Your love, and the many blessings that are ours through You.

Forgive us for falling short of Your grace and Your call upon our lives, and help us to walk humbly, serve graciously, and lead righteously.

Guide this body today in the work that You have called them to. Grant strength, wisdom, courage, and compassion to the leadership and to each Member of this House, the Senate, our President, and all the leaders of our government.

Finally, we pray for our Nation. Grant us peace and unity. Call out the best in us, and help us to care for and serve the least of those among us.

Bless these leaders, that they might be a blessing to the world.

To Your glory, Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LOWENTHAL 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND DR. JIM BIRCHFIELD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to be here today to watch my father-in-law, the Reverend Dr. Jim Birchfield, speak in the House this afternoon.

Reverend Dr. Jim Birchfield is a man whom I have known over the past nearly decade that I have known my wife and her family. They are here with us in the gallery this afternoon. He is a man of utmost integrity who has devoted his life to, as he said, serving those among us that are most in need.

Through his ministry at First Presbyterian Church and, prior to that, in Newport Beach, California, and the Greater Los Angeles area, he and his family have consistently dedicated

themselves to spreading the Word of God and making sure that we, as a community and a country, remain focused on those who need our help most.

He has spread that Word throughout the entire world, from Sub-Saharan Africa, Egypt, and Malawi, to recent trips to Israel, and literally the world over, as he continues to expand his ministry and touch those who are in need of additional services.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful today to be with my father-in-law, Reverend Dr. Birchfield, and to have this moment to share with him and his family this morning.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ACT

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, under the leadership of Senator CORNYN and Senator WYDEN, the Senate has unanimously passed the bipartisan Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. This bill will help stop modern-day slavery here in America. The House has passed a similar bill under the sponsorship of CAROLYN MALONEY and myself.

We have acknowledged international human trafficking for years. Now, we acknowledge and put sufficient resources behind the fight against the buying and selling of human beings. Slavery in America is not going to be tolerated.

The bill penalizes traffickers and buyers. Mr. Speaker, buyers have escaped the long arm of the law for too long. The bill also treats trafficking victims as victims and not criminals.

We can no longer deny the scourge of rape and abuse of our children. I strongly encourage the House leadership to immediately bring up the Senate compromise, Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, for a vote.

Victims are people, too. Let it be known that America's kids are not for sale, and woe be to anyone that sells them or buys them in the marketplace of slavery.

And that is just the way it is.

BLACK APRIL

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, 40 years ago, the fall of Saigon ended the war in Vietnam and began the journey for hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese who were forced to flee their land for foreign shores like America.

This April, we remember those Vietnamese, Americans, and their allies who lost their lives in Vietnam and for the many thousands of boat people who perished while fleeing Vietnam on the "journey to freedom."

Today, in communities throughout our Nation, Vietnamese Americans

contribute daily to the tapestry that we call American life.

On this 40th anniversary of Black April, we also cannot forget the continuing struggle in Vietnam for democracy, freedom, and basic human rights.

Today, I am introducing a resolution commemorating this historic event, remembering those who gave their lives, and honoring the Vietnamese community in the United States.

CLEAN POWER PLAN IN MINNESOTA

(Mr. EMMER of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness about the questionable requirements the State of Minnesota has been given by the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan.

The Clean Power Plan mandates that Minnesota reduce carbon emissions for power plants by 41 percent by the year 2030, while requiring lower reductions in other States. The EPA has failed to recognize and credit Minnesota for already decreasing its emissions by 13 percent between 2005 and 2011.

Not only is this plan patently unfair to Minnesotans, but it will hurt consumers across our Nation. Electricity prices will increase for many businesses and families, disproportionately impacting those who are already struggling to make ends meet.

Additionally, according to the Cato Institute, the plan will only reduce the average worldwide temperature by about two-hundredths of a degree Celsius, and that will take almost 100 years.

I encourage the EPA to reconsider the Clean Power Plan, while keeping in mind the work many States have already done on their own to reduce emissions.

TRIBUTE TO EARL HARGROVE

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I will place a statement into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD paying tribute to the memory of my dear friend, Earl Hargrove, who passed earlier this month.

Earl was a very respected figure in Maryland's Fifth District; in Maryland; and, indeed, nationally. He built a successful specialty decorations and event planning business and served our Nation in the Marine Corps.

Everyone has seen Earl Hargrove's work in America because he did many of the inaugural floats for our Presidents; so when you watched television, you were watching the work of Earl Hargrove, his family, and coworkers.

I am honored to celebrate his life and legacy today, and I hope my colleagues will join me in offering condolences to Earl's wife of six decades, Gloria Love

Hargrove, and to his children and grandchildren.

MARRIAGE

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, on this day that the Supreme Court is hearing oral arguments on marriage, I want to read a quote.

I believe marriage is not just a bond but a sacred bond between a man and a woman . . . I am committed to the sanctity of marriage, to the fundamental bedrock principle that exists between a man and a woman, going back into the mists of history as one of the foundational institutions of history and humanity and civilization . . . its primary, principal role during those millennia has been the raising and socializing of children for the society into which they become adults . . . Every State reserves the right to refuse to recognize a marriage performed in another State if that marriage would violate the State's public policy.

Indeed, the Supreme Court has long held that no State can be forced to recognize any marriage. That is what the case law has held . . . the Supreme Court has historically held that States do not have to recognize laws of other States that offend their public policy, it is assumed that any challenge would be futile.

Mr. Speaker, that was Hillary Clinton in 2004. She was right.

THANK A NURSE

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize all the hard-working nurses across America.

Nursing is our country's largest healthcare profession. There are more than 3.1 million registered nurses working on the front lines with patients across the country.

Beyond working in hospitals, nurses work at private practices, public health agencies, primary care clinics, home health care, nursing homes, and outpatient facilities.

Nurses perform a number of important duties. They are a pillar of our healthcare system and are vital in creating a healthier America. An increased emphasis on preventative care means nurses will become even more important in the future.

Nurses do important and fantastic work and are an integral part of our healthcare system. If you know a nurse—or the next time you see one—thank them for what they do.

CONGRATULATING THE WILKES CENTRAL LADY EAGLES

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the Wilkes Central High School women's basketball team, which recently won the North Carolina 2A State championship. It is the first NCHSAA State championship in the program's history.

The Lady Eagles fought hard in the final minutes to beat Kinston High School 44-41 for the win. MVP Laken Blackburn had 15 points to lead the team. Kailey McNeil added 9 points and 19 rebounds. Amber Godfrey had 7 points, and Kamre Gibbs added 6 points, including two free throws with 6.7 seconds left to seal the win. Brooke Bentley scored 5, and Maegan McUmbert hit two crucial free throws in the fourth quarter.

I commend these young athletes and head coach Scott Waugh, who led them on their winning campaign, and wish the team continuing success in future seasons.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN AND BOARD MEMBER OF THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) laid before the House the following communication from Porter J. Goss, chairman and board member of the Office of Congressional Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby notify you of my resignation as Chairman and Board Member of The Office of Congressional Ethics (OCE), effective immediately.

As you may recall, I have been serving as Co-Chair of The OCE Board since the inception of the office in 2008. The guidelines established by H. Res. 895 show my term should not exceed eight (8) years. An Alternate Member currently serves on the Board to fill vacancy.

Co-Chairman David Skaggs and I believe the purposes of H. Res. 895 are best served by staggering the timing of replacement of each of the Co-Chairs. Therefore, I have begun to transition to other areas of public service and private activity.

Please be assured I consider it an honor and privilege to have experienced this appointment on behalf of The House of Representatives.

Kindest regards,
PORTER J. GOSS.

REAPPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE RECORDS OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment, pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702 and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. Jeffrey W. Thomas, Columbus, Ohio

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair

declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

RAUL HECTOR CASTRO PORT OF ENTRY

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1075) to designate the United States Customs and Border Protection Port of Entry located at First Street and Pan American Avenue in Douglas, Arizona, as the "Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1075

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RAUL HECTOR CASTRO PORT OF ENTRY.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States Customs and Border Protection Port of Entry located at First Street and Pan American Avenue in Douglas, Arizona, shall be known and designated as the "Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the port of entry referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Raul Hector Castro Port of Entry".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1075 currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.