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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 2, 2016, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2016

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Almighty Merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We pray for the gift of wisdom to all with great responsibility in this House for the leadership of our Nation.

May all the Members have the vision of a world where respect and understanding are the marks of civility, and where honor and integrity are the marks of one's character.

As Members take time in the coming week for constituency visits, give them the ability to hear the voices of all in their districts so that when they return, they are focused on the important work to be done.

Bless us this day and every day, and may all that is done within these hallowed halls be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. TROTT) come for-

ward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TROTT 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS OF MARTIN AND CATHERINE TERBRACK

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

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary achievements of Martin and Catherine Terbrack of Troy, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Terbrack were recently recognized by CARE House of Oakland County as Foster Parents of the Year.

CARE House is a wonderful organization in southeast Michigan that provides services and counseling to children who are victims of abuse.

The Terbracks have cared for 33 children, newborn babies to 5-year-old kids, and are currently caring for a 14-month-old baby girl who was 6 weeks old and weighed only 4 pounds when they brought her into their home.

The Terbrack family has been involved in fostering for an amazing 73 years, with Martin's mother, Peggy,

having cared for 150 children. That equates to about 90,000 bottles and 220,000 diapers.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when many have come to see our Nation defined by acrimony and division, the wonderful story of Martin and Catherine Terbrack of Troy, Michigan, reminds us all that there is more good in this world than bad.

They have taught us that many of our problems we face can be solved with love and generosity, and they remind us that we all have the power to touch people's lives for the better.

Martin and Catherine do that every day.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4651

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name from H.R. 4651.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Washington?

There was no objection.

BLACK APRIL AND FALL OF SAIGON

(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, this Saturday, April 30, marks 41 years since the fall of Saigon, commemorated as Black April in Vietnamese American communities across this Nation.

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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I introduced a resolution in remembrance of this event, and to honor the contributions and the sacrifices of Vietnamese Americans.

In addition, this week, in front of my congressional office, I am flying the Vietnamese Heritage and Freedom Flag, as recognized by States and localities across this country.

As we remember the fall of Saigon, I also believe it is critically important to continue to shine a light on human rights abuses in Vietnam.

When President Obama visits Vietnam next week, I hope he will make human rights a priority. Now is exactly the right time for Vietnam to begin respecting the rights of its own citizens.

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because April is Autism Awareness Month.

Autism is a condition that affects more than 3 million Americans and their families. Those living with autism spectrum disorders face challenges on a daily basis.

Though we have come a long way, much more must be done to ensure a high quality of life for all. Some of this work needs to happen right here in the United States Congress, but much of this work also needs to happen in our homes and in our communities.

That is why, together with my Disability Awareness Advisory Board, I have been fighting for greater acceptance and understanding, working to ensure that those with autism have greater access to education and employment and have the place they deserve within our community.

One of the great organizations in Illinois' 10th Congressional District is Lambs Farm. Those with developmental disabilities served by Lambs Farm are provided the opportunity to advance in all areas of life through ever-increasing residential, vocational, and recreational choices.

Together, we are striving for a society where those living with autism and other disabilities are free to pursue their passions, receive a high-quality education, and have their unique gifts celebrated.

BOOSTING AMERICA'S EXPORTS ACT

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, for corporations with a boardroom full of lawyers and thousands of employees, exporting products is something they do every day.

But for a small-business owner or startup entrepreneurs in places like Rockford, Galesburg, Peoria, or the

Quad Cities, the deck is stacked against them on the global economic playing field.

That is why today I introduced the Boosting America's Export Act. It will help small- and medium-sized businesses expand economic opportunity and create more good-paying American jobs.

My bill will identify and assist small businesses that have the potential to sell the products in new markets.

We already know that small businesses create two out of every three jobs and, by building a business climate that helps them grow and succeed, we will strengthen working families across our Nation.

I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand with me in this effort.

INVESTMENT SPURRED BY SOUND FIDUCIARY RULES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House passed H.J. Res. 88, a measure to reject the Department of Labor's misguided fiduciary rule.

Just like ObamaCare gets between you and your doctor, this conflict-of-interest rule attempts to put Washington between you and your financial adviser, insisting on a broad, onerous piece of regulation rather than a simple solution based on best business practices that attracts plaintiff attorneys and a bonanza of new lawsuits.

Even State officials in New York, which is a Democratic stronghold, have proposed simpler solutions that inform consumers without burdening investment businesses, if only the Department of Labor would listen.

I implore the Senate to pass this measure and the President to listen to State officials, actual financial investors, and small investors, who have developed a better alternative, by signing this legislation into law and not stymieing investment for families and our economy.

LET'S DO SOMETHING ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, an American is killed with a gun every 16 minutes. And what is Congress' response?

Well, here is what we have become really good at. We have become really good at coming together for moments of silence. We do it every time there is a mass shooting. And, in 2015, there were 330 mass shootings.

We ask: Why can't we do more?

And our response, the response too often, is: We don't need to do anything else. There are plenty of laws on the books.

Why don't we enforce them? Well, the fact is that there is one thing we can do that is not on the books. We can require that everyone who buys a gun has a background check.

If you buy a gun in a store, you have to get a background check. But for gun shows, 100 gun shows a week, 5,200 gun shows a year, 5 million people traveling through those gun shows, there is no background check.

There is no background check for the millions of Internet ads or classified ads.

Let's pass mandatory background checks to help keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. That is what we can do, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, there is too much at stake for us to continue to ignore this tragedy. It is time for Congress to act.

RURAL HEALTH ACT OF 2016

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

Mr. HARDY. Mr. Speaker, last fall a hospital in my State closed its doors after years of being the only hospital within a 100-mile radius. Unlike in more populated communities, when a rural hospital closes, residents can be left with the frightening reality that emergency medical care and medical care services may be too far away.

Sadly, this is not the only isolated incident. More than 30 percent of America's rural hospitals are vulnerable to the conditions that may have caused the closure of 71 facilities in the last 6 years. The numbers increase each year, and we have to act now to prevent more families from losing their lifelines in times of emergency.

That is why I am introducing the bipartisan Rural Health Act of 2016. It will support existing rural hospitals by strengthening resources for State Offices of Rural Health and incentivize construction of new facilities for those communities in need.

Our rural communities need our attention. We cannot let them down.

HEROIN AND OPIOID ADDICTION

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of those we have lost to heroin and opioid addiction.

Another 30 people are likely to die today, another 30 lives lost on top of the thousands that we are losing each year to this epidemic. We have lost daughters and sons, fathers and mothers, sisters, brothers. Friends, acquaintances, and coworkers alike have lost their battles with addiction.

Too often their deaths have been cloaked in the shadows. Obituaries remain silent on the cause of death. For too long our society has viewed opioid