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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PoE of Texas).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Washington, DC, June 10, 2016. I hereby appoint the Honorable TeD Poe to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

Paul D. Ryan, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

We thank You once again that we, Your creatures, can come before You and ask guidance for the men and women of this assembly.

Bless the people of this great Nation with wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, that they might responsibly participate in our American democracy as both political parties anticipate their conventions.

Help us all to be good citizens, respectful in our disagreements, and generous in our behavior toward one another

Bless us this day and every day. May all that is done be for Your greater honor and 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 gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DELBENE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. DELBENE 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 PRO TEMPORE

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

STATE EFFORTS TO CRACK DOWN ON OPIOID EPIDEMIC

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, recently I was proud to vote for a package of bills here on the floor of the United States House intended to help crack down on the terrible epidemic of prescription opioid abuse and heroin abuse across our Nation.

Today, I want to recognize the efforts in the Pennsylvania General Assembly to assist in the goal of fighting back against all drug use. Specifically, a new law authored by State Representative Matt Baker, who represents a portion of Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District, would go after designer drugs in which different chemicals are combined to create new drugs.

This new law will speed up the process in adding these drugs to the State's list of banned drugs, enabling law enforcement to arrest and prosecute the individuals responsible. Giving members of our law enforcement commu-

nity the tools that they need to thwart illegal drug manufacturers will save lives.

Mr. Speaker, if you want to successfully fight back against a problem, you surround it. I am proud to see great lifesaving solutions coming from both the Federal and the State levels, with additional community action in the form of local roundtables and townhall meetings.

LGBT EQUALITY DAY

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

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, this is Pride Month, and we have much to celebrate.

In the last two decades, our Nation has seen the Defense of Marriage Act overturned, an end to the criminalization of same-sex conduct, and nation-wide marriage equality, all through Supreme Court decisions that were handed down on June 26. But even with these incredible strides, we cannot forget that LGBT Americans continue to face inequality and discrimination simply for who they are and who they love.

That is why I have introduced legislation to designate June 26 as LGBT Equality Day, not only to celebrate how far we have come, but also to acknowledge how much work remains to be done.

I urge my colleagues and all Americans to join me in celebrating the first LGBT Equality Day on June 26.

As opponents of equality double down in their attempts to legalize discrimination, we must keep fighting until all Americans have equal rights and protections under the law.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE AUBURN CITIZEN

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

☐ 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.

