

To turn their lives upside down and put them at risk because there are people in the White House who don't understand or who don't care is appalling.

I applaud my colleagues in both parties who are speaking out and asking the administration to come to its senses on this blanket ban of Muslims from seven countries—seven countries, by the way, that have not been involved with terrorist acts. This is not going to make us any safer. Some have speculated that some of the countries that have been left out, like Saudi Arabia, where most of the 9/11 terrorists came from, were left out because the President has business interests there.

I don't know why these countries were selected, but the fact is it should end today. It should end not just because of the brave men and women under the Special Immigrant Visa program from Iraq whose lives are now at greater risk because of this reckless act. It is wrong because of the signals we are sending to foreign nationals whom we rely upon. It is not just in Iraq. We have people who work for the United States who live in many other countries who help us with the State Department programs and with the military. What message are we sending to them if the United States is not going to stand up and protect them?

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of the universe, thank You for giving us another day.

It is Your nature to hold us in Your living presence always. It is our nature to think of You or of others only momentarily or in passing.

Be with each of us that we may be our very best and prove ourselves worthy of Your love and Your grace.

Bless the Members of this people's House in their work and deliberations today that they might merit the trust of the American people and manifest the strength of our Republican democracy to the nations of the world.

As the new administration finds its footing and settles into its governing principles, may this assembly assist by remaining faithful to its constitutional responsibilities with the help of Your grace and wisdom.

May all that is done this day 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 Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

SPY CAR STUDY ACT

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, American families today are at an increased risk of cyber attacks. Additional reports of cyber vulnerability in cars threaten the safety of American families by allowing a hacker to access a vehicle and take control from the driver. Vehicle safety is of great importance to me because South Carolina is America's leading exporter of automobiles and tires, with BMW, soon Volvo, along with Michelin, Bridgestone, Continental, and Giti in Singapore.

Last week, I was grateful to introduce the SPY Car Study Act of 2017 with Congressman TED LIEU of California. This bipartisan legislation directs government partners and private automobile manufacturers to conduct a study on the security and privacy threats to our motor vehicles.

In conclusion, God bless our troops; and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

President Donald Trump has taken positive action to vet refugees who ISIS has threatened to infiltrate so as to commit mass murder as they did in France and Germany.

WELCOMING REFUGEES IN RUTLAND, VERMONT

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

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I wish to introduce President Trump to two Syrian families who made it to safety in Rutland, Vermont, just a week before he slammed the door.

The al-Hallak family is from Damascus, and the Khatib family is from Aleppo. These families survived a home being bombed, al Qaeda and ISIS terrorists, and the brutal violence of the Assad regime. They found temporary refuge in Turkey. They have now found permanent freedom in Vermont. These good people endured all of this hardship to do what all parents strive to do—protect their children from harm.

Madam Speaker, I wish President Trump were with me last Thursday in Rutland to meet the al-Hallaks and the Khatibs. Do we really fear these families when they have been so rigorously vetted?

I wish President Trump were with me to meet the generous people of Rutland. They had good questions about the refugee program—its cost and their security. Yet, Madam Speaker, unlike President Trump, the folks in Rutland never, never wanted to ban Muslims and welcome only Christians.

PRESERVING WORKPLACE PROTECTIONS FOR LGBT FEDERAL CONTRACTORS

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am heartened by the administration's announcement that it will preserve workplace protections for LGBT Federal contractors. This is a meaningful and positive step toward ending discrimination against hardworking LGBT Americans who only want to earn a living and provide for themselves and their families.

For many years I have been working with my congressional colleagues on both sides of the aisle to protect skilled, qualified, and motivated LGBT employees. Too often these individuals experience rejections at job interviews, are denied promotions, or face other types of harassment in the workplace simply because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

This shameful practice of discrimination on the job runs counter to our core values of fairness and equality. I hope that the administration and Congress can work together to extend equal rights to LGBT individuals in every sector.

BASIC AMERICAN VALUES IN WESTERN NEW YORK

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of so many western New Yorkers and Americans who are outraged by the President's executive order on immigration.

The story of America is defined by the struggle of immigrants overcoming