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No. 19

House of Representatives

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: We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

You are the source of life and love. Hear the prayers of Congress, both for the good of this Nation and the good of humanity around the world. Help this Congress and the President to discern Your will in our day.

By drawing on the truth taken from a diversity of opinions, may a solid foundation be formed upon which a stable future may be built.

May short-term gains or self-interest never prove to be an obstacle to true vision. Rather, Lord, grant depth perceptions, clear analysis, and creative response to the needs of our time for solidifying the common good, for we freely choose to be Your people and act accordingly.

And finally, 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.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a

quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. GARAMENDI 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 3, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 3, 2017, at 8:11 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 41.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

LET'S WORK WITH PARENTS, NOT AGAINST THEM

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, Randi Weingarten of the American Federation of Teachers spoke recently on valuing the input of parents in building great public schools, but the actions of one AFT affiliate stand in stark contrast to that vision.

As Chicago resident Michael Hendershot explained in The Wall Street Journal, his daughter's elementary school was forced to lay off its librarian last year. Fortunately, parents stepped up and volunteered their time to keep the library open. Unfortunately, the Chicago Teachers Union shut down the parents' plan and the library along with it. It seems anything that weakens union control over the school must be stopped, even if it denies students access to their library. How shameful.

If we want to build great public schools, then we must work with parents, not against them. So let's work together—Congress, the new administration, and the American public—to empower parents and help all children receive an excellent education.

MORE FLOOD PROTECTION NEEDED ACROSS THE COUNTRY

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, feast or famine. California, for 5 years, had a water famine, and now we have a feast.

I want to shout out to the Army Corps of Engineers, to the local flood control districts in my district, in Sacramento, the Sutter Butte District I share with Mr. LAMALFA, and also other flood control districts. Despite the heavy water flows, the levees have held.

□ 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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