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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 27, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JEFF DENHAM to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DENHAM) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

You sent Your prophet Isaiah to Your people when they were in need of hope and vision. May Isaiah's prophetic words guide us still.

Send Your spirit upon this Nation and this Congress that we may be open to hearing Your word and actively seek the salvation You alone can bring.

Make of us a people of compassion and holiness. In pursuing the avenues of justice for all, may we be a sign to the community of nations.

Help us to work toward the complete fulfillment of the deepest human hopes and Your inspiring promises. With humility let us embrace our calling: to be truly prophetic, as Your servants of old, by earnestly fulfilling Your commands now and forever.

Lord, bless the Members of the people's House today and all days, and 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 California (Mrs. MIMI WALTERS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California 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.

REVIVE THE KEYSTONE PIPELINE

(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, President Trump has signed an executive order to revive the Canadian Keystone XL pipeline. If Keystone does not go through, it is not as if Americans will stop buying oil to meet our energy needs. No, we will just buy it from somewhere else. That includes countries like Saudi Arabia or corrupt Venezuela.

It seems to me that we would rather see a stable country and neighbor like Canada get this contract than Venezuela or Middle Eastern countries.

Keystone is also good for the United States. Keystone XL pipeline will bring thousands of jobs to my home State of Texas. This is where the pipeline ends at the refineries in southeast Texas.

At peak capacity, the pipeline is expected to deliver 830,000 barrels a day to the Gulf Coast. That is as much fuel as we get from Saudi Arabia. At peak capacity, this will be better for the United States and energy independence.

TransCanada has reapplied for this permit, and the State Department needs to approve it. Pipelines are the most economical and environmentally safe way to move fuel, and it is time we make this happen.

And that is just the way it is.

SNAP: A RUNG ON THE ECONOMIC LADDER

(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, I rise today to identify an important rung on the economic ladder.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, can help pave the way for recipients to climb the economic ladder through work training.

□ 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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