

Almighty God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the Members return, we ask Your blessing on all those who are discerning significant options about remaining in the people's House or choosing to run for this office. May a spirit of freedom and public responsibility prevail among all the voices competing for ascendancy in the conversations and debates that ensue.

Bless all Members with wisdom in good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, that the legacy of great legislators of our history might be carried on with integrity for the benefit of all.

May all that is done in the people's House 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.

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

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

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COMER 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. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY), the whole number of the House is 433.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 19, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*The 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 October 19, 2017, at 12:11 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2989.

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 20, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*The 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 October 20, 2017, at 3:28 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H. Con. Res. 71.

With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HOUSTON ASTROS MAKE IT HAPPEN

(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, it is the seventh game of the American League Championship Series. After being down three games to two, the Astros, who dedicated their season to the people of Houston, had tied the ALCS three to three against the powerful New York Yankees.

The winner goes to the World Series against the mighty Dodgers.

It is the top of the ninth inning in Houston. The Astros are up 4 to 0. The Astros take the field. Pitcher Lance McCullers is on the mound throwing curveballs. He strikes out Yankees shortstop Didi Gregorius. One out.

McCullers attacks the plate with a dirt-diving curveball. Sanchez strikes out. Two down.

The fans are standing. They are screaming. Bases are empty. One out remains. McCullers throws another curveball to batter Greg Bird, and the Yankees, Mr. Speaker, have trouble with the curve. It is a fly ball, center field.

Springer catches the ball. Third out. The fans go wild. Astros win, Astros win, Astros win. The city of Houston starts singing and dancing in the streets. American League Champs.

And that is just the way it is.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION ECONOMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(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, last week I traveled the district and heard from constituents who are grateful for the historic progress being made by the Trump administration creating jobs.

President Donald Trump has led a strong pro-business team. The economy has added over 800,000 private sector jobs since January. Consumer confidence is at a 13-year high. The number of unemployment claims has plunged to the lowest level in over 40 years.

I appreciate the President can share the significance of the DOW soaring above 23,000 points, up nearly 5,000 points, or 27 percent, since election day, as you can see in his tweet on Wednesday.

The President's critics will never give him credit for American families. Columnist Clarence Page has described the "anti-Trump derangement syndrome" drives critics to irrational extremes.

But these critics can't dispute the facts. The fresh faces, fresh voices, and fresh ideas that President Donald Trump has brought to Washington is making a difference for American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

RECOGNIZING JANET JOHNSON AS EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Janet Johnson for being named Educator of the Year by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Janet Johnson has worked tirelessly for the citizens of Allen County as an agent for the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. She dedicates her time to extending UK's research knowledge to help Kentuckians build strong families.