

economy, but I come from the school of hard knocks and hard work. Having ran several companies myself, I think the job pattern that we have going on will keep growing.

We have a 16-year high in consumer confidence, a 16-year low in unemployment. That is mostly due to rolling back regulations. But as we go forward with this tax reform, we are going to grow more jobs and have more opportunities for Americans.

This is the start of a new year with the greatest tax reform, the most important legislation of the 21st century, and I am so proud to be part of this process.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 5 minutes 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. BUDD) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Dan C. Cummins, Peoples Church, Jacksonville, Texas, offered the following prayer:

O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the Earth. When we consider the heavens and the Earth, the works of Your fingers, what is man that You are mindful of us?

In our troubles, we cry out to You, and You hear us. Your ear is not deaf, Your arms of mercy never refuse our salvation.

Great is the Lord, greatly to be praised. You are our refuge, our very present help in times of trouble.

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to its people.

Forgive us O Lord, where we have sinned and come short of Your glory. Let Your grace wash over us. Though our sins be as scarlet, wash us and make us whiter than snow.

Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord. Let us exalt the Lord together, and He will heal us.

In Jesus' name, 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 gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SHIMKUS 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.

#### CONGRATULATING GENERAL BEN HODGES

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate General Ben Hodges on his 37 years of active military service and his retiring on December 15.

Ben and I entered West Point together in 1976, and both graduated as Goats in 1980. We both branched infantry and attended ranger school together, graduating in the spring of 1981. While I went Active Duty and Reserves, Ben continued his active military service.

We met in Kirkuk, Iraq, as he commanded the brigade in the 101st Air Assault Division.

We bumped into each other as he headed the Army legislative liaison here in Washington, D.C., and we saw each other numerous times in his last assignment commanding the United States Army in Europe. In that position, Ben gave comfort to our NATO allies in the east, creating a permanent rotational mission.

Congratulations, Ben, on a job well done. Pride and excellence, and beat Navy. May God bless you and your future endeavors.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

#### 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.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas

and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### RECOGNIZE, ASSIST, INCLUDE, SUPPORT, AND ENGAGE FAMILY CAREGIVERS ACT OF 2017

Mr. ESTES of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3759) to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3759

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage Family Caregivers Act of 2017" or the "RAISE Family Caregivers Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The term "Advisory Council" means the Family Caregiving Advisory Council convened under section 4.

(2) FAMILY CAREGIVER.—The term "family caregiver" means an adult family member or other individual who has a significant relationship with, and who provides a broad range of assistance to, an individual with a chronic or other health condition, disability, or functional limitation.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(4) STRATEGY.—The term "Strategy" means the Family Caregiving Strategy set forth under section 3.

#### SEC. 3. FAMILY CAREGIVING STRATEGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, shall develop jointly with the Advisory Council and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate, the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, and the State agencies responsible for carrying out family caregiver programs, and make publicly available on the internet website of the Department of Health and Human Services, a Family Caregiving Strategy.

(b) CONTENTS.—The Strategy shall identify recommended actions that Federal (under existing Federal programs), State, and local governments, communities, health care providers, long-term services and supports providers, and others are taking, or may take, to recognize and support family caregivers in a manner that reflects their diverse needs, including with respect to the following:

(1) Promoting greater adoption of person- and family-centered care in all health and long-term services and supports settings, with the person receiving services and supports and the family caregiver (as appropriate) at the center of care teams.

(2) Assessment and service planning (including care transitions and coordination) involving family caregivers and care recipients.

(3) Information, education and training supports, referral, and care coordination, including with respect to hospice care, palliative care, and advance planning services.

(4) Respite options.

(5) Financial security and workplace issues.