

Mr. Speaker, we have all met young people who haven't been inspired in a traditional classroom setting. We all know people who have lost jobs or are underemployed and are looking for good-paying, family-sustaining jobs.

We all know people who are aspiring for a promotion but keep falling short year after year. We all know people who are living in poverty. Maybe their families have been living in poverty for generations, for so long they can't even remember what put them there in the first place. A career in technical education is a pathway forward for each and every one of these people. CTE gives people from all walks of life an opportunity to succeed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 14 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

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

Bless the Members of the minority party as they prepare to gather these next days. May they, with those who accompany them, travel safely and meet in peace.

Bless, also, the majority party as they return to their constituencies. Give them hearts and ears to listen, to listen well to all those whom they represent.

May the work that needs to be done presently result in progress toward addressing the needs of the Nation to the benefit of all.

May all that is done this day 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, 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 pro tempore. 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. COSTELLO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania 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. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

IMPORTANCE OF STABILIZING THE INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE MARKET

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

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reiterate the critical importance of stabilizing the individual health insurance market.

My focus continues to be for Pennsylvanians to have access to affordable and quality healthcare. To this end, I have introduced H.R. 4666, the Premium Relief Act, legislation that would provide funding for cost-sharing reduction payments for 2017, 2019, and 2020. CSR's lower cost sharing for thousands of Pennsylvanians who purchased low-deductible, high-quality health insurance.

My bill includes a patient and state stability fund. Because this fund is guaranteed by the Federal Government, it would provide certainty to insurers when they set their rates. The stability fund can result in lower premiums for my constituents and many across the country by providing funding for copayments, coinsurance, preventative care, maternity care, treatment for mental health and substance disorders, among other needs.

Mr. Speaker, this temporary Federal fallback will provide States with the necessary time to implement a thoughtful, carefully tailored program that best fits the needs of each State's unique patient population.

I urge my colleagues to consider adding their name as a cosponsor to my legislation.

TREASON IS NO LAUGHING MATTER

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

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make it clear that treason is not a laughing matter. It is a serious crime embedded in the Constitution, punishable by death. But since your Commander in Chief chose to raise it at a political rally, let's have a discussion about treason.

Is it treason for a Presidential campaign to meet with a hostile foreign power to sell out our democracy and rig the election?

Is it treason for a Presidential campaign to meet with Russian spies who promised information that was negative about a political opponent and then failed to report that meeting to law enforcement officials?

Is it treason for your former National Security Adviser to be a Russian asset sitting at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue doing the bidding of Vladimir Putin?

How dare you lecture us about treason. This is not a dictatorship. It is a democracy, and we do not have to stand for a reality show host masquerading as President of the United States of America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

PAKISTAN IS A MENACE TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND A SUP-PORTER OF TERROR

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the State Department has announced that it is adding Pakistan to a special watch list for severe violations of religious freedom. The long overdue decision recognizes that Pakistan's shameful policies target and encourage violence against religious minorities, primarily Christians. Pakistan's blasphemy laws declare open season for attacks on these already persecuted communities.

Pakistan also lets radical Islamic terrorist groups like the Afghanistan Taliban Network, Haqqani Network, and al-Qaida go unchallenged in Pakistan. This makes Pakistan one of the most dangerous places in the world for Christians. Just last month, ISIS suicide bombers struck a densely packed church in Pakistan, killing nine and wounding dozens.

I applaud the President's decision to reexamine our relationship with Pakistan and freeze military aid. Pakistan has played the United States for too long. We cannot continue to provide billions of dollars to a country that fosters terrorism and hate.

And that is just the way it is.