



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 164

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018

No. 61

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 16, 2018.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROGER W. MARSHALL 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 8, 2018, 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 2 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. HILL) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Bless the Members of the people's House. There are many important

issues to be considered with multiple interests and priorities dividing the House in its deliberations.

Today, we ask Your blessing upon so many Americans in many parts of our country who are suffering due to severe weather. May their needs be met expeditiously, and may those first responders and others who have come to their assistance be blessed in their efforts and know of the prayers and support of a grateful nation.

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

COMMEMORATING ISRAEL'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

(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. Last week, I introduced H. Res. 815, which commemorates the 70th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel as well as President Donald Trump's courageous decision to move the American Embassy to Jerusalem.

Over the past 70 years, the Israeli people have demonstrated resiliency of the human spirit while overcoming tremendous obstacles. Every day Israelis endure the threat of terrorism in their lives, but they remain optimistic about the future of their country.

As Americans face a similar enemy in the global war on terrorism, we must continue to strengthen our relationship inspired by Ambassador Ron Dermer.

By holding fair and free elections and vigorously legislating in its parliament, Israel is a shining model of democracy. I am grateful for another remarkable year of freedom with the bold leadership of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

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

DANGERS OF PARTISAN FARM BILL

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make clear the dangers of a partisan farm bill that we are considering in the House Agriculture Committee this week.

Bipartisanship is not simply a buzzword. Bipartisanship is vital for policies to serve the widest range of Americans. Sadly, it is in short supply these days in our Capitol. The House Agriculture Committee has, for over 40 years, traditionally been a very bipartisan committee because our Nation's food supply affects everyone: rich and poor, farmers and consumers, Democrats and Republicans alike.

Our farm bill is America's food bill, and it needs to be about feeding all of us. I always say it is really a matter of our national security, yet the bill we are considering this week is, without question, a partisan farm bill.

□ 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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We see this in how it fails to serve key parts of our Nation and abandons many of our food insecure. A partisan farm bill is bad policy, plain and simple. It will not succeed legislatively nor can it be implemented successfully.

I ask that we put aside these partisan differences, do as we have done traditionally, and work together to pass a bipartisan farm bill in the House and in the Senate that the President can sign.

POLITICALLY BIASED MEDIA

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Morning Consult recently asked Americans about their views of television's political bias.

Respondents were four times as likely to say television programs present a more liberal perspective than a conservative one. The liberal media, including Hollywood studios, have dismissed the views of most Americans. They portray American life in their own liberal image. News reports, movies, and TV shows reflect the liberal leanings of the media producers, not most American's values.

To be fair and balanced, the media should represent American families and their values, not just the producers' political and cultural philosophy.

RUSSIANS LIED—SYRIANS DIED

(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, the Russians lied.

In 2013, the Russian bear entered into a sweeping agreement with the United States. The deal, Syria's arsenal of chemical weapons would be removed by the middle of 2014. Russia would guarantee this agreement. In return, the United States would indefinitely stall air strikes.

For months, we have watched in horror as defenseless men, women, and children were murdered by the rogue Syrian regime, intent on using chemical weapons against their own people. Friday evening, President Trump joined our allies, France and Britain, to authorize precision air strikes against chemical weapon production and storage in Syria. This decisive retaliation was an appropriate, targeted response to this horrific crime. No chemical weapons in Syria.

However, the United States' role in Syria must be focused. The U.S.' purpose in Syria is to eradicate the influence of ISIS. Any other U.S. military escalation of the Syrian war must be authorized by Congress. But meanwhile, Assad the butcher now knows from our President not to cross a red line and use chemical weapons on his people.

And that is just the way it is.

COMMUNICATION FROM CONSTITUENT SERVICES DIRECTOR, THE HONORABLE JACKIE SPEIER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Mark H. Nagales, Constituent Services Director, the Honorable JACKIE SPEIER, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 11, 2018.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony as a witness in a criminal trial issued by the Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Mateo.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

MARK H. NAGALES,
Constituent Services Director.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 13, 2018.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am resigning, as of this date, my position on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Membership on Veterans' Affairs has proven to be invaluable to me in providing for veterans and their families and for active service members in the Northern Marianas Islands. These heroes are remote from the services of the Veterans Administration and have been neglected; but the Department has proven responsive to me as a member of the Committee.

It is my intention to build on the relationships I have established with the Department and within the Committee, so that my constituents who have served their nation in the military may continue to receive the services they have earned and deserved.

Sincerely,

GREGORIO KILLI CAMACHO SABLAN,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1659

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at 4 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.

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.

AUTHORIZING SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED IN UNITS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3607) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3607

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

SECTION 1. FEES FOR MEDICAL SERVICES.

(a) FEES AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may establish and collect fees for medical services provided to persons in units of the National Park System or for medical services provided by National Park Service personnel outside units of the National Park System.

(b) NATIONAL PARK MEDICAL SERVICES FUND.—There is hereby established in the Treasury a fund to be known as the "National Park Medical Services Fund". The Fund shall consist of—

(1) donations to the Fund; and

(2) fees collected under subsection (a).

(c) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—All amounts deposited into the Fund shall be available to the Secretary, to the extent provided in advance by Acts of appropriation, for the following in units of the National Park System:

(1) Services listed in subsection (a).

(2) Preparing needs assessments or other programmatic analyses for medical facilities, equipment, vehicles, and other needs and costs of providing services listed in subsection (a).

(3) Developing management plans for medical facilities, equipment, vehicles, and other needs and costs of services listed in subsection (a).

(4) Training related to providing services listed in subsection (a).

(5) Obtaining or improving medical facilities, equipment, vehicles, and other needs and costs of providing services listed in subsection (a).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

(1) FUND.—The term "Fund" means the National Park Medical Services Fund established by subsection (b).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) and the