

SCOTT TIPTON of Colorado, KEN BUCK of Colorado, TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, and SUSIE LEE of Nevada be removed as cosponsors of H.R. 1904.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 962, BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVORS PROTECTION ACT

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 962, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, I urge the Speaker to immediately schedule this important bill.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution:

Mr. SHIMKUS, Illinois

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I will be happy to yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), my friend, the majority leader of the House for the purpose of inquiring about the week to come.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, Mr. SCALISE, for yielding. I also thank him for not mentioning the LSU-Maryland game one more time.

Mr. SCALISE. Only because we are no longer in the mix as well.

Mr. HOYER. We are both lamenting that fact.

On Monday, Madam Speaker, the House will meet at 12 p.m. for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business, with votes postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Tuesday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate and 12 p.m. for legislative business. On Wednesday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business.

On Thursday and Friday, no votes are expected in the House.

We will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. The complete list of suspension bills will be announced by close of business tomorrow.

Madam Speaker, the House will also consider H.R. 1644, Save the Internet Act of 2019. This bill will reverse the administration's repeal of critical net neutrality protections, which will empower the FCC to prohibit unjust, unreasonable, and discriminatory practices and ensure consumers can make informed decisions when shopping for internet plans. This bill also enacts authorities to support expanding broadband to rural communities and struggling Americans.

In addition, Madam Speaker, it is possible the House will take action to set the budget levels for discretionary spending for the next 2 fiscal years.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I look forward to a robust debate on the unaptnly titled bill, "Save the Internet." I think a lot of people shiver at the thought of the Federal Government saving us from the internet.

The title II regulation that would be imposed would allow the internet to be regulated like a utility. This is not the phone company of the 1970s. This is probably one of the greatest innovations that America has produced for the world, allowing us to be a world leader, dominant leader, in a growing technology field. Primarily because the government hasn't figured out how to regulate it, it has been able to grow so robustly.

I would hope that we have that full debate and people are very aware of the negative connotations and, ultimately, the damaging effects of a Federal regulation of the internet that could slow down that dramatic innovation that we have seen with the Federal Government not regulating it. It will be a robust debate.

Hopefully, we debate a number of other issues. I know we had a robust debate on the floor just a little while ago on the BDS movement. It is a growing concern for all of us who feel passionately about Israel's right to exist as a Jewish State.

I know the leader has been a leader in this Congress and a leader throughout this country in an incredibly bipartisan way standing up for that unique relationship, but we have seen threats from other countries. You have seen heavy debate in Europe.

You have seen debate in areas in Palestinian circles that want to undermine Israel's right to exist as a Jewish State by trying to boycott products made in Israel, to crush Israel's economy. That is why it is so important that we stand up against this BDS movement.

While we weren't successful in the motion to commit, there is legislation that is incredibly bipartisan.

S. 1, a bill that has come over from the Senate, unfortunately, hasn't been referred to committee, nor, also, H.R.

336, similar legislation that would allow us to help support our friends around the world who want to stand up against the BDS movement and stand with our good friend Israel.

Madam Speaker, I would like to ask the gentleman, is there any plan to allow either or both of those bills to come to the floor so we can send a strong message to our friends around the world and to enemies of Israel, as well, that we are not going to support this BDS movement.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, as the gentleman knows, we share views, as he has expressed, and we are awaiting committee action. When the committee acts, we will make a determination of how to go forward.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, if I could further inquire, S. 1 has not been referred to committee. Is there a plan to refer the bill to committee and, ultimately, to allow it to move through the process, as it has been incredibly bipartisan but also incredibly timely, that we as the United States Congress stand with our friend Israel and stand against what is a growing movement that should be of concern to all of us?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, as I said, I agree with the gentleman's objective and position with respect to BDS. The committee has legislation before it and is considering it.

As you know, Mr. SCHNEIDER and Mr. NADLER, I think, are the cosponsors of that legislation. I expect the committee to consider it, and then, at that point in time, we will make a decision how to move forward.

□ 1245

Mr. SCALISE. That is correct. And I know those pieces of legislation are just resolutions, not actual policy.

And, ultimately, if we are going to make the stand, it has to be legislation with teeth, with actual authorizing language and with the ability for us to give true support to our friends—not just words, but actions as well.

So, hopefully, we can move both, and I would just continue to urge.

And the gentleman from Maryland's support for Israel is unquestioned and has been admired by people on both sides. I would just urge that we, as a House, move those bills, one or both of the actual substantive bills, to the floor as quickly as possible, as they have already moved through the Senate.

S. 1 had 77 votes in support—so, strongly bipartisan—coming out of the Senate, but still no referral in the House. Hopefully, we can get that expedited.

And with that, on the idea of legislating by resolution, I know that has been a growing trend in this Congress of this majority to move, instead of substantive bills to deal with things like lowering healthcare costs or helping create more jobs.

There have been a lot of bills that are just press releases, resolutions that

don't actually change law or help change policy or work in a bipartisan way to get bills to the President's desk that can address the growing issues that our country faces.

Are we going to see a continued trend in this majority of just resolutions, or are we going to finally get to bipartisan policy on some of these big issues?

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Well, of course, as the gentleman well knows, we have, Madam Speaker, passed many substantive pieces of legislation. We have sent to the Senate H.R. 1, a very broad-reaching reform bill trying to ensure voting rights and access for everybody, trying to ensure fair redistricting throughout the country, trying to make sure that dark money does not control our elections, and making sure that we are operating both in the executive and the legislative agency with ethical conduct.

That passed unanimously on our side. I forget exactly how many.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, opposed unanimously on our side, if I can point out.

Mr. HOYER. Today's vote, obviously, we had two very substantive pieces of legislation, one of which is going now to the President, and the other of which—the Violence Against Women Act—had a signature bipartisan vote, as the gentleman knows, passed the House.

We have done the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which had been pending for some period of time in making that a permanent piece of legislation.

We made sure that women—in 1963, we passed the Equal Pay Act. John Kennedy signed it. Unfortunately, we are still struggling to make sure that that promise is realized and that women are, in fact, paid based upon what they do, not based upon what their gender is.

So I would say to my friend, we have passed a lot of legislation we had pending, and we are doing a lot of hearings. We are dealing with infrastructure. We are dealing with drug prices. We made it a big issue in the campaign. We are moving ahead to make sure the Affordable Care Act works in a way that it was designed to work.

So I would say to my friend that we have pursued, both on the floor and in committee, the substantive legislation that we have talked to the American people about.

I also feel very strongly that we want to avoid what happened to us at the end of the last Congress, when you were in the majority. We shut down the government.

I am going to be working hard, hopefully on both sides of the aisle. I don't think anybody wants to see that as an objective, so I am hopeful that we can work together.

I am working with your ranking member on the Appropriations Com-

mittee, KAY GRANGER, with whom I have served for some period of time, and Mrs. LOWEY to make sure that we get the appropriation bills done in a timely fashion and send them to the Senate.

I am hopeful that that will occur, and I am hopeful that we can fund the government in a rational way and not shut down government, which was so irrational and so harmful to our country and so costly to our taxpayers.

So those are some of the things that we have done, are doing, and will do; and, hopefully, we can, to some degree, work on this in as bipartisan a fashion as possible.

In particular, the President has said he wants to bring the cost of prescription drugs down. We share that view. I am hopeful that we can work together.

The President said he wants a substantial infrastructure piece of legislation. We share that view. We hope we can work together on that.

So we have been pursuing, on a weekly basis; and this was, from our perspective, a pretty good week. I know we disagree on the net neutrality bill, but we do agree that it is a major piece of legislation, and I expect to pass that next week as well.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

It was heavily debated in the Energy and Commerce Committee, as it should be, and I am sure it will be heavily debated on the floor.

A number of these other issues that the gentleman mentioned, you know, we litigated those on the floor. The ones that went over to the Senate, some with only Democratic votes, you know, H.R. 1, for example, the Senate majority leader made it very clear that bill will not get any time on the Senate calendar. There are a lot of others that we would like to see real movement on.

I know there was concern of a lot of people that there were three different committees in the House this week that spent the bulk of their time going after the President personally again.

We have got the Mueller report coming. The summary has already been laid out and made it clear there was no collusion with Russia. There was no obstruction of justice. We will see the report.

What we talked about was that the report be filed in compliance with law, and the law makes it very clear that things like classified information aren't released. That is the law. I think we agreed that that is how it should be, that you don't release classified information. You release the pertinent date.

I look forward to seeing that, and we will see that. But, then, it seemed like a continued assault in three different committees continuing to focus on harassing the President personally, as opposed to focusing on some of those policies.

But one of the policies that should be coming out of the House where there is a real deadline is the budget. April 15 is the deadline.

I know, over and over again, Members of the Democratic leadership, including the Speaker, herself, said: Show me your budget. Show me your values.

There is no budget. And we have been concerned that the agenda doesn't follow—the priorities in the budget are really what you lay out. Those are your values. Those are your priorities.

While they are moving a bill that lays out caps, it is not bipartisan. But, ultimately, when we get a caps agreement, the gentleman knows it is going to have to be a bipartisan agreement.

Last night, the Budget Committee produced only a partisan, one-corner deal—barely a one-corner deal. Typically, they have what are called four-corner deals where the House, Senate—Republicans and Democrats—come together and say: We are going to agree on what those spending levels need to be so that we can then write our appropriation bills, set the priorities of the country, and avoid a government shutdown.

That didn't happen in the Budget Committee. It was a very partisan bill that was moved out; but, more importantly, it was not a budget.

I would hope that with the little bit of time that is remaining to meet that legal deadline that the majority would try to actually produce a budget and follow through on those over-and-over again quotes: "Show me your budget." "Show me your values."

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comment.

Of course, there was no budget last year until very, very late in the year.

What was done was what we will certainly make sure we do very early on, which is to try to establish the numbers, which, of course, a caps deal would do. And our objective will be to show our values in the appropriation bills as they come to the floor—hopefully, in a timely fashion—and our main objective would be not to shut down the government but to do our work on time.

I am confident that, working together, we can reach that objective.

Mr. SCALISE. Hopefully, we can get a bipartisan agreement on what those levels need to be to properly fund our defense, to properly do the other things the government should do and limit the ways it can possibly be carried out, and then, ultimately, to be able to get the bills that follow it passed in time, well before the September 30 deadline.

One of the areas that there is very productive movement on is the new trade deal between the United States, Mexico, and Canada, USMCA. I know there are bipartisan working groups. The White House has been in negotiations with the majority, the Speaker and your team.

Can the leader give any insight into where the conversations are going in the House to get a timetable for when we can start having a plan for that?

You look at Canada's House of Commons, they have their own deadline of when they rise, and, obviously, we want to be aware of our other partners that are included in this negotiation.

Is there talk of a timeline yet, if the leader could share where those conversations are going.

I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, as the gentleman may know, the Speaker invited Mr. Lighthizer to address members of the Democratic Caucus on where we stood.

As you know, that agreement has not been submitted. The Speaker said the other day that, in order to consider that in a positive way, the Mexicans, whom the President has been somewhat critical of through the years, take certain actions which make sure that our workers and their workers are treated fairly so we are competing on an even keel.

But we certainly are in discussions. There are a number of items of concern, which have historically been of concern, regarding the environment, regarding workers' rights, regarding the availability of prescription drugs for people, as well as enforcement, dispute resolution.

So those are being discussed. The conversations are ongoing, and I believe that the administration will make a determination when they believe it is timely to submit that document to us. As the gentleman knows, once they do so, there is a timeframe in which the House and Senate must act. The committees must act within, essentially, a 3-month period of time.

So we are in discussions. We are waiting on the administration's judgment as to when to submit. And I am sure they are discussing with us as to when we think that is timely as well, but there are still substantive matters that are being discussed.

I would presume some of those are on your side as well.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

I am encouraged by the conversations that both I have been in as well as the conversations that I am aware are going on on your side as well, because this is a bipartisan win for the country.

This agreement would help ensure that, as we all support free trade, we also want more fair trade, and this agreement, in many different categories and many different industries, would help create more American jobs and help American workers get treated even more fairly by our neighbors to the north and south.

Finally, if I may inquire of the gentleman, we have talked a number of times about the Born-Alive Act, the bill that we have made multiple unanimous consent requests to bring up the discharge petition moving through the process. There are other means to bring it up even quicker, and one would be if the gentleman would schedule the bill for the floor.

I would just inquire: Is there any plan to schedule the Born-Alive Act on the floor through a direct means versus some of these other tools that are being considered?

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his question.

As the gentleman knows, Madam Speaker, the House voted on this bill during the last two Congresses. The most recent time it was brought to the floor, the gentleman and his party were in control of the House, the Senate, and the Presidency. That bill was not brought up in the Senate.

The gentleman mentioned, earlier, H.R. 1 and that Mr. MCCONNELL has said that wouldn't be brought up. In fact, when it passed this House, it went to the Senate, and it was not brought up by Senator MCCONNELL. So there are no plans at this point in time for us to bring this up.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's candor.

We will continue to pursue other tools that we have available as the growing momentum around the country builds, as people saw what happened in New York with a law ushered in that allows babies to be murdered after they are born alive, the Virginia Governor gruesomely describing what he hopes to be a similar law in his State, other States taking those same kinds of actions. So there is a growing bipartisan interest that feels very strongly that we need a Federal law to protect babies who are born alive outside the womb.

So we will continue to pursue all of those tools that are available and look forward to the workweek ahead next week as we finish our work prior to the Easter recess.

Does the gentleman have anything else?

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I have nothing further to say. I thank the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1300

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019, TO MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MCBATH). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 3, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to 36 U.S.C. §101, I am pleased to appoint the following Members to the United States Semiquincentennial Commission:

The Honorable George Holding of North Carolina

The Honorable Robert B. Aderholt of Alabama

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Republican Leader.

HONORING ABBY CURRAN HORRELL FOR HER SERVICE

(Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate and thank my chief of staff, Abby Curran Horrell.

Abby is an original member of Team Kuster, dating back to the 2012 campaign in the 113th Congress when I was first elected. She has been my tireless coach and confidant throughout my 6-plus years in Congress. Through it all, she has become a very dear friend.

I rise to thank Abby for her dedicated service to our team and for her service to everyone in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District.

Abby embodies our Team Kuster motto, "Radical Hospitality," cultivating a culture of respect and inclusion. Because of her leadership, our staff feel empowered to succeed and grow as they take on new challenges. Through her respect for each member of our staff, Abby has created a collaborative culture, connecting our Washington and New Hampshire offices into a cohesive Team Kuster family.

As Abby grew the Team Kuster family, we all enjoyed watching her grow her own, juggling two maternity leaves as she and Chad welcomed Daniel and Eliza, and all of this while balancing the fast-paced environment of Congress.

Abby, we are all amazed by you. We are proud to know you, and we know you will do amazing things for America. You will be missed.

VOTE ON DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

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

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to demand a vote on disaster supplemental funding.

Next Wednesday will be the 6-month anniversary of Hurricane Michael and 6