

why the provision that we have in this appropriations bill is so important.

I want to commend the subcommittee and the full committee for including in the base text the provision that says no funds shall be used in contravention of the War Powers Act. This is a provision I originally proposed as an amendment on this floor in 2011. We lost the first time, but we ultimately prevailed, and now it is part of the base text. This adds the power of the purse to enforce the War Powers Act.

I am pleased to report that Attorney General Mukasey, a Republican Attorney General, a strong advocate for Presidential power, testified before the Foreign Affairs Committee that he believes and would advise the President that they need not follow the War Powers Act but that they dare not spend a penny in contravention of the War Powers Act if this provision is included in the relevant appropriations bill. So I commend the committee for including this and assuring that any reasonable Attorney General will tell any President they must adhere to that critical 1973 act.

#### CRYPTOCURRENCY

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, in the remaining few seconds, let me deal with another subject. Mark Zuckerberg has announced that he's going to introduce a cryptocurrency, or his plans to do so.

The effect would be to undermine our economy by reducing the importance of the U.S. dollar in international transactions and to undermine our national security by making it easier for drug dealers, terrorists, and sanctions evaders to do businesses without using the U.S. dollar.

I look forward to addressing this House further and to working in the Financial Services Committee. But it certainly concerns me that a man who has benefited like no other from the protection of the U.S. national security efforts and from the U.S. economy would undermine both in an effort to make even more billions.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 28 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ESPAILLAT) at noon.

#### PRAYER

Pastor Ryan Hodges, Rocky Face Baptist Church, Hiddenite, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, in Jesus' name, I want to thank You for today. Thank You for salvation.

The Bible says, in 1 Timothy 2:1-2: "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men; for kings and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

Thank You for the Members of this House, the men and women of this Congress, and for their families. I pray for their work, their wisdom, and their walk.

I pray that You would forgive us our sins as individuals and as a nation. I am truly grateful that Jesus said: "... and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

Please help us to glorify You this day with our lives. Thank You for America. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON 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.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 60. Joint Resolution requesting the Secretary of the Interior to authorize unique and one-time arrangements for displays on the National Mall and the Washington Monument during the period beginning on July 16, 2019 and ending on July 20, 2019.

#### WELCOMING PASTOR RYAN HODGES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize today's guest chaplain, Pastor Ryan Hodges of Rocky Face Baptist Church in Hiddenite, North Carolina.

In 2005, Pastor Hodges earned his theology degree from Cherry Grove Baptist Bible College in Wilkesboro. He has since served in four churches in our State, wherever God has called him to use his gift of preaching and zeal for

souls. He is also a loving husband and father.

Mr. Speaker, the surest way to make a positive change in our country is to follow God's will for our lives, which is itself a lifetime's work.

North Carolina's Fifth District is blessed to have a faithful servant in Pastor Hodges, dedicated to helping others recognize God's love and plan for them. We are blessed to have his prayers and service today, as is everyone that God places in his life.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO POET ELIZABETH ACEVEDO

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, the Carnegie Medal, the prestigious award that annually recognizes authors focused on literature for children or young adults, has been widely coveted since its establishment in 1936.

Surprisingly, the medal has never been awarded to a woman of color in its 83-year existence—that is, until Dominican-American poet Elizabeth Acevedo's win for "The Poet X," a critically acclaimed piece of literature named after its main character, Xiomara Batista.

"The Poet X" artfully illustrates the journey of X, a shy Dominican girl of African descent who joins her school's poetry club in Harlem, a place I represent and know well.

Elizabeth's brave exploration of societal structures in "The Poet X" is remarkable. Her childhood upbringing and tribulations gave Elizabeth unique authority and intimacy of X's journey. The resulting poem will inspire young voices who follow her footsteps.

Congratulations to Elizabeth for her monumental accomplishment.

#### WUNDERBAR TOGETHER INITIATIVE WITH GERMANY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and reaffirm the friendship between the United States and Germany.

I am proud to co-chair the German-American Caucus with Congressman BILL KEATING, and today we introduced a resolution to reaffirm the history of the United States and Germany under the Wunderbar Together initiative.

Our countries are linked by heritage, common values, and shared interests.