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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 25, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

SIGN ON TO IMPEACH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise because I love my country, and I rise now knowing that we are some 69 days since the Mueller report, which means that we are some 69 days with the President being above the law since the Mueller report was made public.

I rise today with a special message. This message has to do with leadership. I rise today with this message, and I

would like to harken back, if I may, to April 16 of 1963. I have my mnemonic notes in front of me. April 16 of 1963 is when Dr. King wrote his letter from the Birmingham City Jail.

Dr. King did not wake up one morning and decide: I think I will go down to Birmingham and get arrested, and I will write a letter from the Birmingham Jail. That was hardly the case.

Dr. King was responding to a letter from some of the leading citizens in Birmingham. These were persons who were cloaked with the robe of the clergy. These are people who had moral positions. They took firm, hardcore positions when it came to morality.

These were the persons who would set the standards, if you will, and maintain the standards for morality. There were eight of them. They decided to write a letter to Dr. King, explaining to him why he should not do what he was about to do in Birmingham.

By the way, they were also aided and abetted by some of the leading Negro citizens. In fact, in their letter, they mentioned that we should—meaning them at that time—allow persons to meet with our leading Negro citizens—they didn't say "leading" but "our Negroes"—and let's try to work this out with dialogue.

I marveled at how persons in positions of great leadership with great responsibility can be so wrong on some of the crucial issues of our time.

Dear brothers and sisters—I say "brothers and sisters" because I believe that there is but one race, and that is the human race. I think that all persons are created equal. As Dr. King put it, on God's keyboard, we are created equal, from a bass black to a treble white. I think that we are all created equal, and I call you brothers and sisters.

Dear brothers and sisters, this issue concerning these babies at the border, I just thank God that the media has fi-

nally discovered this issue and is taking it and bringing it to the forefront, to the extent that they are. I thank C-SPAN for the opportunity to be heard, C-SPAN and all the outlets that allow this opinion to be voiced.

I am pleased that this is being taken up now by the major media because what is happening to these babies at the border is unconscionable.

Some months ago, after visiting the border, I indicated that the ASPCA would not allow animals to be housed in the conditions that we see at the border currently. This is a tragedy not in the making but a tragedy that continues to exist because of inaction and because of actions that have been taken by the Chief Executive Officer of the United States of America in an attempt to deter people from coming to this country.

How heartless can someone be to use babies as a means of deterring people from coming to the country?

I am here today because I love my country. I believe that we cannot allow this to continue. Some 69 days above the law for this President, he knows that we are not going to do anything. This is why he behaves the way that he does. He knows that he can do this without guardrails because, back when he fired Mr. Comey and it was called to our attention that this was obstruction, we did nothing.

I thank God that Members are signing on now and understand the importance of it. The question is no longer: Who is going to be among the first to sign on to impeach? The question is: Who will be the last to sign on to impeach?

I beg all who have not to please give serious consideration to this notion that you can be a part of this impeachment because we cannot allow this injustice to continue.

Finally, I am working on a manuscript, a book, if you will. The title of it is "You Can't Walk Back History."

□ 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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