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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, July 15, 2019, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

In these most important days and debates here in the people's House, we beg You to send Your spirit of wisdom as the Members struggle to do the work that has been entrusted to them. Inspire them to work together with charity, and join their efforts to accomplish what our Nation needs to live into a prosperous and secure future.

Please keep all the Members of this Congress and all who work for the people's House in good health, that they might faithfully fulfill the great responsibility given them by the people of this great Nation.

Bless us this day and every day. May all that is done here be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) come

forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STAUBER 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

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

PROVIDING HEALTHCARE IN INSULAR AREAS

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

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, good news for the Northern Mariana Islands and all the insular areas: The Territories Health Care Improvement Act was introduced on Tuesday, addressing the Medicaid cliff our areas face when special ObamaCare funding ends this year.

Thursday, the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee reported the bill without dissent. "Let's keep it moving," Chair ESHOO said. I believe full committee Chairman PALLONE intends to do so as well.

I thank them both and Ranking Members BURGESS and WALDEN for understanding the urgency of the Medicaid crisis in the insular areas. I also thank Mr. SOTO and Mr. BILIRAKIS, who led the bill along with myself and seven bipartisan cosponsors.

It provides exactly what the Northern Mariana Islands Medicaid director testified she needed: \$60 million per year. No local match is required as we recover from last year's typhoons. After 6 years, we will get the FMAP any State is offered.

There are new program integrity requirements that I support because every Federal dollar should go to those intended, without fraud or waste.

So, healthcare in the insular areas can be as good as healthcare anywhere in America. That is good news.

RECOGNIZING INDEPENDENCE DAY AND PRESERVATION OF FREEDOM

(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, last week, my wife, Penny, and I honored those who make Independence Day possible by attending our son Logan's reenlistment and promotion to Army sergeant first class at Fort Drum, New York.

This occasion reminded me that our independence relies upon the vigilance of our citizens and those who have fought to defend our freedoms.

Regarding Independence Day, John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail: "It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shews, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end

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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