

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.

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Utah (Mr. McADAMS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McADAMS 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

WE MUST ACT ON BIPARTISAN HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS

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

Mr. McADAMS. Madam Speaker, passage of the Affordable Care Act nearly a decade ago, while not a perfect bill, helped thousands of Utah families gain insurance coverage, many for the first time, and I am working in Congress to ensure we meet the law's goals to improve access to care and protect all Americans' coverage, particularly those with preexisting conditions.

Utah's hardworking families struggle with the rising costs of care, fueled to a large degree by skyrocketing prescription drug prices.

Everywhere I go, people talk about how the cost of an illness or an accident sparks the fear of being one health crisis away from financial ruin.

That is why I have voted for a dozen bills to seek to lower the cost of prescription drugs and strengthen consumer protections, and I urge my Senate colleagues to act, too.

I continue to meet with Utahns about their healthcare concerns, and I recently had a conversation with moms of kids with type 1 diabetes, who explained to me how the high cost of insulin is affecting their child's treatment.

We have a bipartisan consensus that our healthcare system needs work, so it is past time that we act on bipartisan solutions that lower Americans' costs and ensure their access to quality, affordable healthcare.

FOR THE PEOPLE AGENDA IN ACTION

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, last year, the American people embraced the Democrats' For the People agenda: lower healthcare costs, raise wages, and clean up corruption.

Americans hate corruption. They hate the idea that people are cutting the line, breaking the rules, and getting ahead, cheating on the system. They want to see us clean that up in Washington.

And they sent us last year with a very, very powerful message. Three things, they said:

The first was: Make it so that I can get to the ballot box in America without running an obstacle course. Make it easier to register and vote in this country.

And in H.R. 1, the For the People Act, we did that. We put that proposal forward to strengthen voting.

The second thing they said was: When you get to Washington, behave yourselves. It is that simple. Be ethical, be accountable, and answer to the people.

So we put ethics reforms into H.R. 1, the For the People Act.

The last thing they said was: When you get to Washington, don't get tangled up in the money. Remember where you came from. Work for us, not the special interests and the insiders and the lobbyists.

And we fixed that in H.R. 1. That was part of the For the People agenda.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JUDGE AVERN COHN

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge Avern Cohn, who turns 95 years young today and marks 40 years of service in the Eastern District of Michigan.

Although he has technically been on senior status for two decades, Judge Cohn maintains a remarkably active docket, and his Chambers are a landmark for anyone interested in an astounding range of history, legal doctrine, and public policy.

I count myself among the many Michiganders, from all communities and stations of life, who know room 218 is the place to go when you have a particularly thorny problem to solve or need advice on a sensitive matter. You just have to be ready because the judge dispenses his wisdom unvarnished.

Judge Cohn's work ethic is legendary. In any room, he is generally both the most well-read person on history, philosophy, culture, and also, somehow, the most up to date on current affairs, as he devours numerous newspapers and websites every day.

It is hard to overstate Judge Cohn's impact on the law and the people who have passed through his courtroom, whether they be defendants, attorneys, or staff. He has left an indelible imprint on so many lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Judge Cohn on 40 years of service and in wishing him continued success.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER). 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.

BUILDING BLOCKS OF STEM ACT

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1665) to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1665

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Building Blocks of STEM Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The National Science Foundation is a large investor in STEM education and plays a key role in setting research and policy agendas.

(2) While studies have found that children who engage in scientific activities from an early age develop positive attitudes toward science and are more likely to pursue STEM expertise and careers later on, the majority of current research focuses on increasing STEM opportunities for middle school-aged children and older.

(3) Women remain widely underrepresented in the STEM workforce, and this gender disparity extends down through all levels of education.

SEC. 3. SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD STEM EDUCATION RESEARCH.

In awarding grants under the Discovery Research PreK-12 program, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall consider the age distribution of a STEM education research and development project to