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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLAY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 9, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable WM. LACY CLAY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

As the Members of this people's House return from a lengthy time in their home districts, bless them with renewed energy to address the issues remaining in this first session of the 116th Congress.

Give them wisdom in their work, that our economy might benefit all Americans, so that our countrymen and women throughout these United States might be able to provide for their families and to build lives we have all come to expect for our citizens.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
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 gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SCANLON 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.

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR EXCUSES

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, last week, students across my district, PA-5, and across the country celebrated the start of the 2019-2020 school year. Students returned mostly eager to learn and teachers ready to teach; but in my district and others, too many desks had empty chairs.

As we were high-fiving students at a Chester elementary school, a school administrator turned to me and mentioned that one of the second graders wasn't there. She was lying in a bed at Philadelphia's Children's Hospital recovering from a gunshot wound that she suffered while sitting in her grandfather's car outside a grocery store the week before.

"I don't know how much more of this I can take," he said to me.

Like many of us, this dedicated educator was visibly worn down by the daily scourge of gun violence, the funerals he has attended for children, for children whose lives have been cut short before they could even begin or who have been forever scarred and limited by the trauma they have experienced or witnessed.

We do not have time for excuses. We need our colleagues in the Senate to act.

There is no one solution to ending gun violence in our country. We need

to implement an array of common-sense, research-based solutions, but the first step must be a will to act.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF GEORGE FRAHM

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

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the president of Stater Bros. Markets, Mr. George Frahm, who will retire at the end of October, after more than 47 years of service.

Under George's leadership, Stater Bros. has become the largest privately-owned supermarket chain in my district and a staple in our community for thousands of employees.

George began his career as a clerk's helper and janitor before rising to management and eventually being named the company's president.

In addition to his work in the community, he went on to lead the California Grocers Educational Foundation, helping to secure college scholarships for students throughout our State.

George will leave a legacy of hard work, vision, and service, and he will be missed by his Stater Bros. family. I would like to thank him for his tireless service to the Inland Empire community and our families, and I wish him all the best as he begins his retirement.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 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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