

political divisiveness over the American people, party over country, and hate over hope and possibility.

Republicans stand ready and waiting for Democrats to finish their infighting and impeachment circus. We stand ready to work with them to pass USMCA and further our economic prosperity. But until they are done playing political games with impeachment, we, and the American people, will be forced to wait, and all America is the loser.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETERS) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

Brother Peter Tabichi, Order of Saint Francis, Keriko Mixed Day Secondary School, Pwani Village, Kenya, offered the following prayer:

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, amen.

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace,

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

We pray for peace in the world.

We pray that our hands and hearts be stretched out in compassion and in the service of others.

You remind us, "Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else."

Lord, make us an instrument of Your peace.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, 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. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

ONLY CONGRESS CAN AUTHORIZE WAR AGAINST IRAN

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, President Trump said that the U.S. is "locked and loaded" and ready to launch an attack against Iran in retaliation for attacks on Saudi oil facilities that Houthi rebels in Yemen have claimed responsibility for.

Let's be clear, Mr. Speaker, this Congress has not—and let me emphasize, has not—authorized any kind of military operation against Iran. Nevertheless, the President is beating the drums of war to distract Americans from the truth.

What happened in Saudi Arabia is a logical outcome of failing to negotiate an end to Yemen's civil war. It is a logical outcome of the President's blind support for Saudi Arabia against the will of Congress.

It is time for cooler heads to prevail. It is time to end U.S. support for Saudi Arabia's war in Yemen. It is time to end the failed maximum pressure campaign against Iran. It is time to remind this President that the Constitution gives Congress the right to declare war, not him.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, September 16, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on September 16, 2019, at 5:48 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he notifies the Congress of his intent to enter into a trade agreement regarding tariff barriers with Japan.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,

Clerk of the House.

INITIATING TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH JAPAN ON A UNITED STATES-JAPAN TRADE AGREEMENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-63)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

On October 16, 2018, my Administration notified the Congress that I intended to initiate trade negotiations with Japan on a United States-Japan Trade Agreement. As stated in that notification and subsequent consultations with the Congress, my Administration proposed pursuing negotiations with Japan in stages. I am pleased to report that my Administration has reached an initial trade agreement regarding tariff barriers (the "agreement") with Japan and I intend to enter into the agreement in the coming weeks.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 103(a)(2) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-26, Title I) (the "Act"), I hereby notify the Congress that I intend to enter into a trade agreement regarding tariff barriers with Japan under section 103(a) of the Act.

In addition, I also will be entering into an Executive Agreement with Japan regarding digital trade.

My Administration looks forward to continued collaboration with the Congress on further negotiations with Japan to achieve a comprehensive trade agreement that results in more fair and reciprocal trade between the United States and Japan.

DONALD J. TRUMP,

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 16, 2019.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, September 17, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on September 17, 2019, at 11:25 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con Res. 25.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

RECESS

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