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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. RUSH).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 23, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BOBBY L. RUSH 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.

NFL SHOULD END RACIST EXPLOITATION OF NATIVE AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, the National Football League is celebrating its 100th anniversary, and its popularity and economic success is indisputable. Millions of fans watched the NFL last year, and the league's 32 teams split more than \$16 billion in revenue.

One team, the Washington franchise, exploits a racist slur and a racist mas-

cot that insults and demeans Native Americans to help generate profits for the NFL owners.

In the 21st century, we should rightly condemn the use of racial slurs that disparage African Americans, Latinos, Asians, or anyone. And there is no doubt about it. The term "redskin," in fact, was used in conjunction with scalp hunting in the 19th century.

In 1863, in Winona, Minnesota, my home State, a newspaper, the Winona Daily Republican, printed an announcement: "The State reward for dead Indians has been increased to \$200 for every redskin sent to purgatory. This sum is more than the dead bodies of all the Indians east of the Red River are worth."

A news story published in the Atchison Daily Champion in Atchison, Kansas, on October 9, 1985, told the stories of settlers' "hunt for redskins, with a view of obtaining their scalps."

No doubt about it, this is a negative word. This is a slur. So it is remarkable that the NFL commissioners and owners continue to sanction the racist and shameful use of the term "redskin" to describe Native Americans and then profit from it.

There are millions of Native Americans in this country whose ancestors endured forced removal from their lands, suppression of their culture, and state-sponsored campaigns of ethnic cleansing.

The NFL racist mascot mocks this painful history.

Tomorrow night, the Washington team and its racist mascot will be in Minnesota, the home of 11 proud sovereign Tribal nations. I will be joining Tribal leaders, elected officials, and other Minnesotans gathering outside the stadium. We will be speaking out against racism and exploitation. We will stand proudly with our Native American brothers and sisters. With one voice, we will be calling on the NFL to end its racist exploitation of

Native Americans and to do one thing: Change the mascot.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THOMAS H. TRACY, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Tom Tracy, Jr., an active and beloved community member who passed away unexpectedly last month at the age of 47.

Tom grew up in Ivesdale, Illinois. After graduating from Bement High School, he went on to attend Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and earned his MBA from Eastern Illinois University.

He spent over two decades working in the banking industry before accepting the role of president and CEO of Farm Credit Illinois in 2015. In this position, he led an organization of 220 full-time employees and a multibillion-dollar loan portfolio for its farm owners.

Those who worked closely with him described Tom as an extraordinary executive with a kind and charitable heart.

Outside of work, Tom showed he grew up in Bement and learned how to actually get involved in his community to make it better. Tom gave generously to Parkland College. He gave generously to local charities, and he served on the board for Kirby Medical Center's Kirby Foundation in Monticello. Tom lived his entire life in humble service to his friends, to his neighbors, and to his family.

He was a kind young man. Tom's life was full of promise. He is truly going to be missed.

Shannon and I are deeply saddened by his passing, and our prayers are with all those who knew Tom, all those who worked with Tom, but especially

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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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his wife, Erin, and his children, Alex and Maggie.

Rest in peace, my friend.

HONORING THE HONORABLE LOU FREY, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MURPHY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Congressman Lou Frey, who represented the Orlando area in this Chamber for a decade, from 1969 to 1979.

He passed away recently but leaves behind an enduring legacy. Congressman Frey was many things, but above all, he was a loving husband, a wonderful father and grandfather, and an extraordinary public servant who cared deeply about central Florida and about this country.

He was a man with strongly held views, but also one willing to make principled compromises in the interest of bipartisan progress. His accomplishments before, during, and after his tenure in Congress are too long to list, but their impact can be summarized like this: Because of him, Orlando is a better city; Florida is a better State; and America is a better Nation.

As the chair of Future Forum, a group dedicated to empowering young people, I regard Lou Frey as a role model. One of his most passionate causes was helping younger Americans learn about this country, about how our government works, and about how choosing a career in public service can bring you a sense of inner joy and enable you to improve the lives of others.

Lou, working with former Senator Bob Graham, was instrumental in getting Florida to pass legislation requiring all students in the State to complete civics education. When I saw how young Floridians responded in the wake of the Pulse and Parkland shootings, turning those tragedies into a resolute call for government action, I thought of and silently thanked Lou Frey.

Rest in peace, Congressman.

PROTECT AMERICA FROM FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN ELECTIONS

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. I rise in strong support of the SHIELD Act. I helped introduce this legislation, and the House will consider it on the floor later today.

This bill will protect our country from foreign interference in our elections. Russia's assault on our democracy in 2016 exposed gaps in our Nation's defenses.

It used to be that the primary threat from adversary nations was their potential use of traditional weapons of war. But our society is rapidly changing and so is the nature of conflict.

Today, our enemies are far more likely to use computer malware than cruise missiles to do us harm, and they don't think twice about exploiting loopholes in our laws in order to influence our elections.

That is why passing the SHIELD Act is so critical to maintaining the foundation of our democracy, our system of free and fair elections.

We know Russia and possibly other foreign powers will likely use similar tactics in 2020. And why wouldn't they? Russia has suffered almost no consequences for their actions in 2016.

While Russia assisted a Republican on that occasion, it could aid a Democrat in the future. That is because Moscow's loyalty is to itself, not to any U.S. political party. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle should never forget that fact.

To defend our democracy, we need to act now to protect our elections. We need to pass the SHIELD Act.

I commend Chairwoman LOFGREN for her leadership in drafting this critical piece of legislation, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

WORDS OF PRESIDENT ZELENSKY HAVE BEEN IGNORED

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, an overlooked factor of these relentless investigations and this impeachment inquiry is the way in which the words of Ukrainian President Zelensky have been largely ignored.

Zelensky said, without condition, that he felt no pressure from President Trump related to corruption investigations in Ukraine. President Zelensky's words have been largely ignored because they do not fit the narrative pushed by the Democratic leadership of this House.

Just think, had President Zelensky wanted to severely damage our President, he could have lied and stated he did feel pressure. Doesn't that scenario give you chills? Had a foreign leader simply altered and fabricated one publicly stated phrase, the entire Democratic Caucus of this House would be calling for our President's head, repeating it over and over.

That is the reality of this sickening and dangerous presumption of guilt that some Members of this body are choosing to push.

Our President deserves nothing less than the due process and presumption of innocence afforded to all Americans by our Constitution. Anything less is an affront to the Republic our Founders created and to all the electorate, Democratic and Republican.

RECOGNIZING ARMENIAN GENOCIDE AND TURKISH INVASION

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a concerned American, concerned because our country stands at a crossroads in foreign policy and history, I might add.

In recent days, we have seen this administration cynically abandon our Kurdish allies in northeast Syria and open the door to a Turkish invasion. These decisions were made without consulting our allies, our distinguished diplomats, and regional experts like Ambassador Jeffrey.

Much damage has been done. Yesterday, President Putin and President Erdogan signed an agreement, I believe, that harms American interests in that part of the world.

Hundreds of people have been killed. Tens of thousands have been displaced. Dangerous ISIS prisoners, who have been killing and wounding Americans, are now on the loose, threatening increased international terrorist actions in Europe and the United States. This is a real threat.

Turkey's actions have shown it to be a dangerous actor on the international stage, but it is not the first time. We must immediately impose sanctions to show our commitment to a stable international order and the rule of law, and Turkey must understand that.

Clearly, the international reputation of the United States has, I think, been deeply damaged.

As chairman of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, I know. Our European partners ask me all the time: Are we together? Do we share the same values of the rule of law, of democratic freedoms?

The United States should never, ever end up standing alone. The past few days also reminds us of another injustice that must be rectified.

In 1915, the Ottoman Empire embarked upon systematic deportation of 1.5 million Armenians. These innocent men, women, and children became the first genocide in the 20th century. Yet, as I stand here this morning, the brutal atrocity has still not received the official recognition by our government that it deserves.

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Turkey outrageously continues to ignore the voices of the survivors and the descendants around the world. Many of these survivors settled in my district in the San Joaquin Valley where they have lived and where they have raised their children in the blessings of liberty, and they made it in the American way.

But this is not justice. The road to justice begins with full recognition of the Armenian people's suffering. Both Turkey and the United States, immediately, should recognize that the Armenian genocide occurred, as the European Union has done.

I am proud to support H. Res. 296 which, over the objections of Ankara, would establish permanent U.S. recognition and ongoing American remembrance of the Armenian genocide. That is the right thing to do.

I call upon my colleagues who have yet to publicly endorse this bipartisan resolution to join me, with over 110 co-sponsors, in calling for a long-overdue