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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. ROSE of New York).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 3, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MAX ROSE 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: God of light, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Send Your spirit of peace and calm, that all might have confidence in Your faithfulness to us, and that no matter what lies ahead, Your grace is abundantly available.

For millions of Americans, it is a season of anticipation of the coming of God's blessing. It is also a season of difficult memories for many because of addiction, divorce, or the first Christmastime without a loved one. Bless all who are in need of Your healing presence.

These same realities are shared by many in the people's House, even while they engage in ongoing tense and difficult negotiations and address contentious issues. Lord, have mercy on Your people, and provide the grace that is needed for the work of the House to be fruitful and beneficial for all Americans.

May all that is done in the days to come 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. 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.

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, December 3, 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 December 3, 2019, at 12:00 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1138.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF THE STATEN ISLAND COUNCIL OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

(Mr. ROSE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROSE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friends, Mendy Mirocznik and Scott Maurer, and the Staten Island Council of Jewish Organizations.

Every year, COJO puts on incredible events that celebrate Jewish tradition and bring together the Jewish community with other communities of faith from across Staten Island. Now, more than ever, this work is essential to maintaining and building upon the fabric of our great borough.

All too often, though, external forces work to separate communities and isolate them, which leads to polarization, misunderstanding, and fear.

Not with COJO, though. COJO works to build bridges between communities so that we can come together. Most importantly, COJO ensures the security of the Jewish community on Staten Island, which, unfortunately, feels more and more at risk due to recent events.

Across the country and around the world, we see a rising tide of anti-Semitism, from hate speech and graffiti in my district to terror attacks at synagogues across the country.

Now, more than ever, COJO's work is necessary, and I am proud to work with them each and every day to build a safer Staten Island for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR, THE HONORABLE LANCE GOODEN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TRONE) laid before the House the following communication from Ryan Ethington, Legislative Director, the Honorable LANCE GOODEN, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 2, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the

□ 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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Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Ryan Ethington, have been served with a subpoena for testimony and documents issued by the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

After consultation with the Office of the General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

RYAN ETHINGTON,
Legislative Director,
Office of Congressman Lance Gooden.

APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER IN THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2103(b), and the order of the House of January 3, 2019, of the following individual to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House for a term of 6 years:

Mr. Robert Anacletus Underwood, Hagatna, Guam

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3:45 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1545

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLAY) at 3 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

CITIZENSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY MEMBERS AND CIVIL SERVANTS ACT

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4803) to facilitate the automatic acquisition of citizenship for lawful permanent resident children of military and Federal Government personnel residing abroad, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4803

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 "Citizenship for Children of Military Members and Civil Servants Act".

SEC. 2. FACILITATING THE AUTOMATIC ACQUISITION OF CITIZENSHIP FOR LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT CHILDREN OF MILITARY AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL RESIDING ABROAD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 320 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1431) is amended—

(1) by striking the section header and inserting "CHILDREN BORN OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES AND LAWFULLY ADMITTED FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE; CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CITIZENSHIP AUTOMATICALLY ACQUIRED";

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

"(c) Subsection (a)(3) is deemed satisfied in the case of a child who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States if—

"(1) the child is residing in the legal and physical custody of a citizen parent who is—

"(A) stationed and residing abroad as an employee of the Government of the United States; or

"(B) residing abroad in marital union with an employee of the Government of the United States who is stationed abroad; or

"(2) the child is—

"(A) residing in the legal and physical custody of a citizen parent who is—

"(i) stationed and residing abroad as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; or

"(ii) authorized to accompany and reside abroad with a member of the Armed Forces of the United States pursuant to the member's official orders, and is so accompanying and residing abroad with the member in marital union; and

"(B) authorized to accompany such member and reside abroad with the member pursuant to the member's official orders, and is so accompanying and residing with the member.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by striking the item relating to section 320 and inserting the following:

"Sec. 320. Children born outside the United States and lawfully admitted for permanent residence; conditions under which citizenship automatically acquired."

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 4803, the Citizenship for Children of Military Members and Civil Servants Act. This bipartisan legislation provides a simple solution to ease the burdens imposed by our current citizenship laws on those who have chosen to serve our Nation abroad, and their children.

Most children who are born outside the United States to U.S. citizen parents are deemed U.S. citizens at birth. But under our current citizenship laws, this process can be more complicated for children whose parents don't meet certain bureaucratic requirements related to residency, a concept that is generally defined according to where one physically resides.

This often affects military families and certain other Federal employees serving abroad. As a result, when establishing U.S. residency is not possible because of a parent's overseas service to the Nation, these families, who make great sacrifices for our country, are at a disadvantage.

Without access to a streamlined citizenship process, parents must either guide their children through a lengthy and expensive naturalization process or find some alternative way to establish U.S. residency, which may even require them to cut short their overseas service commitment to the armed services.

In August, Members on both sides of the aisle were taken aback by the administration's reversal of a 15-year-old policy that allowed families of military servicemembers and Federal Government employees to meet the residency requirement for acquisition of citizenship purposes while serving abroad.

H.R. 4803 will implement a small but important fix to our citizenship laws by restoring and codifying the previous policy and bringing consistency to what were once differing policy provisions between the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State.

H.R. 4803 will provide greater flexibility to individuals who have dedicated their lives and careers to serving our Nation by treating their children like other children of U.S. citizens who were born overseas, allowing them to be automatically recognized as U.S. citizens once certain conditions are met.

H.R. 4803 will thus eliminate the inconvenience, expense, and delays of the naturalization process that such children are required to undergo under current law and allow their parents to continue serving our Nation in the military without interruption.

I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), my friend and colleague, for partnering with me on this commonsense, bipartisan fix, as