

people and folks across West Virginia have been able to witness this unjust and unfair process.

Despite a rigged investigation and process, Democrats could still not find any real evidence of an actual crime. I will continue to stand with President Donald Trump as he fights back against this baseless impeachment.

I look forward to a fair trial in the U.S. Senate.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, the story of the birth of Jesus Christ from the Gospel of Luke:

And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was Governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord.

THE WAR ON PUTTING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, that was such a beautiful 1-minute speech, it is hard to follow it. It was such a great thing to say.

This morning when I got up, I read a column by one of the talking heads around here saying that there was a fictional war on Christmas, and I thought I might address the issue with my 1-minute speech.

There may or may not be a war on Christmas around here, but there is certainly a war on putting Christ in Christmas, and I am going to comment on the background music that we hear throughout the Christmas season.

In Washington, D.C., we have WASH, a typical radio station around the country. From 4 o'clock in the morning until 1 o'clock this afternoon, the only song that they played that mentioned Christ was "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen."

This is corporate America at its best. They have a list of their 50 favorite songs for Christmas, and "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" was 50. They managed to find 49 great songs that didn't mention Christ.

If you get around shopping, Kohl's department store, and whatnot, Mr. Speaker, you will again and again hear the music background leaving out "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "Joy to the World," "O Come, All Ye Faithful"—all the songs that people my age grew up with.

I would hope that America will step forward and be aware of this and demand more of corporate America.

I finally would like to thank Sheboygan North High School in my district for playing "Joy to the World" and "Away in a Manger" in the Christmas parade.

SPEECH SHUT DOWN FOR IMPEACHMENT

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I am here giving a 1-minute speech on the last day of our legislative week because not only in Judiciary were we prevented from having minority witnesses come and having a minority witness day—the majority could have changed the rules if they wanted but they didn't bother, they just violated their own rules—we have special orders every day, and that is 2 hours for each party. But with impeachment going on, the Speaker chose to shut down that for the week and shut down the 5-minutes speeches, so she pretty well shut down speeches that we normally are allowed to have.

Normally, I would hope to read a Christmas proclamation, but since I am only allowed 3 more seconds, I will just say: Merry Christmas and happy new year.

SENATE BILL AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A bill and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 153. An act to promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer science, and scientific research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology; in addition, to the Committee on Veteran's Affairs for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. Con. Res. 31. Concurrent resolution recognizing the importance and significance of

the 2020 Census and encouraging individuals, families, and households across the United States to participate in the 2020 Census to ensure a complete and accurate count; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 150. An act to modernize Federal grant reporting, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1138. An act to reauthorize the West valley demonstration project, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2333. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the responsibilities, workload, and vacancy rates of Department of Veterans Affairs suicide prevention coordinators, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4566. An act to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of victims of the mass shooting in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on May 31, 2019.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 50.—An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 216.—An act to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydro-power by the Grand Coulee Dam, and for other purposes.

S. 256.—An act to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide flexibility and reauthorization to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages.

S. 737.—An act to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood.

S. 1790.—An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on December 17, 2019, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

H.R. 5363. To reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PAYNE). Pursuant to section 7(b) of

House Resolution 758, the House stands adjourned until 11 a.m. on Monday, December 23, 2019.

Thereupon (at 4 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, December 23, 2019, at 11 a.m.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mrs. TORRES of California: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 772. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5377) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the limitation on deduction of State and local taxes, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-357). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NEAL: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 5430. A bill to implement the Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada attached as an Annex to the Protocol Replacing the North American Free Trade Agreement (Rept. 116-358, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEUTCH: Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Allegations Relating to Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (Rept. 116-359). Referred to the House Calendar.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 5130. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to adjust the employment size standard requirements for determining whether a manufacturing concern is a small business concern, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-360). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 5146. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to require contracting officers to take a small business concern's past performance as part of a joint venture into account when evaluating the small business concern, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-361). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Education and Labor, Natural Resources, Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, the Budget, Transportation and Infrastructure, Financial Services, Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, and Oversight and Reform discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5430 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. STEWART:

H.R. 5490. A bill to amend section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, to require that annual budget submissions of the President to Congress provide an estimate of the cost per taxpayer of the deficit and of the public debt; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mrs. LURIA):

H.R. 5491. A bill to improve the fielding of newest generations of personal protective equipment to the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 5492. A bill to repeal the Military Selective Service Act, and thereby terminate the registration requirements of such Act and eliminate civilian local boards, civilian appeal boards, and similar local agencies of the Selective Service System; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah:

H.R. 5493. A bill to prohibit the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service from awarding grants to entities that fund or support gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. CALVERT, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. COOK, Mr. BERA, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mr. AGUILAR):

H.R. 5494. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received from State-based catastrophe loss mitigation programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 5495. A bill to direct Federal agencies to transfer excess Federal electronic equipment, including computers, computer components, printers, and fax machines, to educational recipients, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. COURTNEY):

H.R. 5496. A bill to include Iceland in the list of foreign states whose nationals are eligible for admission into the United States as E1 and E2 nonimmigrants if United States nationals are treated similarly by the Government of Iceland, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WESTERMAN (for himself, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. BURCHETT):

H.R. 5497. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish a time-limited conditional approval pathway, subject to specific obligations, for certain drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 5498. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to allow transportation of merchandise in noncontiguous trade on foreign-flag vessels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 5499. A bill to provide a definition of reasonable rate for noncontiguous domestic ocean trade, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 5500. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt certain noncontiguous trade from the coastwise laws; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 5501. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of

Drug Manufacturing; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BRINDISI (for himself, Mr. KATKO, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. GOSAR):

H.R. 5502. A bill to remove Federal barriers regarding the offering of mobile sports wagers on Indian lands when the applicable State and Indian Tribe have reached an agreement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN of Maryland (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 5503. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to direct the Director of the National Park Service to prioritize certain funds for high-commuter corridors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 5504. A bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act with respect to the definition of eligible high hazard potential dam, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. TONKO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Ms. HAALAND):

H.R. 5505. A bill to provide for the establishment of clean technology consortia to enhance the economic, environmental, and energy security of the United States by promoting domestic development, manufacture, and deployment of clean technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASE (for himself and Ms. GABBARD):

H.R. 5506. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 by requiring preclearance quarantine inspections for all movement to or from the State of Hawaii by either domestic or international travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CRIST (for himself, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mrs. DEMINGS):

H.R. 5507. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to require an alien lawfully admitted to the United States under a nonimmigrant visa to obtain the approval of the Attorney General before receiving a firearm; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 5508. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish additional requirements for certain transportation projects with estimated costs of \$2,500,000,000 or more, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. BRINDISI):

H.R. 5509. A bill to deem certain cartel organizations to be foreign terrorist organizations pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. TIPTON, Ms. HAALAND, and Mr. STANTON):

H.R. 5510. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to explicitly authorize distribution of grant funds to the voting accessibility protection and advocacy system of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the system serving the American Indian consortium, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.