

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL
FITZPATRICK

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I want to, as well, today, pay tribute to Michael Gerard Fitzpatrick, who, as has been mentioned, served in this House, representing Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District.

It was a privilege to serve with Mike, and, from the first time that I met Mike here in Washington in the House, I knew he was a man of character and a man of principle.

Mr. Speaker, I think you have heard from the words that were spoken this morning before I spoke that, indeed, was the reputation that he had here in Washington, D.C., as I am sure he had back in the State of Pennsylvania.

Today, as we pay tribute to Michael and his life, I am reminded, with just the passing of my own mother-in-law at 5 o'clock this morning, Shirley McDonald from Huntsville, Alabama, who was struggling from Parkinson's disease, of just how short life is. Literally, I am reminded of the shortness of time and the greatness of eternity.

But my mother-in-law, Shirley, and Michael knew that there is a life beyond this one and that, because of Christ, we can have hope to enter an eternal life.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GREG KIRK

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Georgia State Senator Greg Kirk, who passed away on December 22 at the age of 56 after a battle with cancer.

A former pastor, Senator Kirk was first elected to the State senate in 2014. Representing Americus in southwest Georgia, he spent his 6 years in the State senate working hard for rural Georgians: spurring job creation, protecting life, and always putting God first.

His colleagues in the State senate remember him as an exceptional public servant who was always a champion for doing what is right, making him one of the State's most fervent and gracious leaders.

One of his most important pieces of legislation included a bill that would legally protect people who broke into a vehicle to help rescue a child that had been left unattended in hot weather.

His presence, leadership, and passion for service will be dearly missed in the Georgia State senate. Senator Kirk's family and friends will be in my thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.

IN RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL SEAFARERS'
CENTER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the International Seafarers' Center in Brun-

wick, Georgia, for all of their work throughout the First Congressional District of Georgia.

Operating in coastal Georgia for the last 38 years, the International Seafarers' Center strives to provide spiritual, emotional, physical, and material support to mariners passing through our area. Currently, the Port of Brunswick, alone, receives 16,000 seafarers annually who have very little access to the conveniences of home while they are at sea.

The International Seafarers' Center is guided by its Christian faith, and with their two hospitality centers, they have done an exceptional job of serving those mariners from all walks of life, different religions, countless languages, and diverse races.

One of the most notable examples of their work includes their effort to provide clothing and food to 20 crew members of the Golden Ray cargo ship that had capsized off the coast of St. Simon's Island in September of 2019.

I cannot thank everyone involved with the International Seafarers' Center enough for making the First Congressional District of Georgia such a welcoming place for seafarers to pass through during their time at sea.

Keep up the good work.

□ 1100

HONORING THE SERVICE OF BETTY GILLIS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Betty Gillis, who is retiring after 41 years serving as supervisor of Ware County's Board of Elections and Registration.

Throughout the past 4 decades, Ms. Gillis has done an exceptional job in the First Congressional District, ensuring that Ware County's elections are both robust and fair.

Looking back on her time, she remembers that she has enjoyed every minute of it, and she has come to think of her colleagues as extended family.

In her retirement, Ms. Gillis is planning to spend more time with her family. However, it will simply be impossible to replace a public servant as dedicated and excited about her role as Ms. Gillis.

Thank you for your service to the First Congressional District of Georgia, Ms. Gillis. Congratulations on a retirement well-deserved.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CLAIR
WOFFORD FRAZIER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Ms. Clair Wofford Frazier, who passed away on December 23, 2019, at the age of 58, after a battle with cancer.

Ms. Wofford Frazier dedicated her life to serving her alma mater, Young Harris College. A member of the Board of Trustees for over a decade, she served on a number of different committees that impacted daily campus life, including committees on academic affairs, development, and student affairs.

She also created the Wofford-Frazier scholarship to help a Young Harris edu-

cation be as accessible as possible for deserving students. A testament to her work, the executive board room at the college is named in her honor, and she won the Susan B. Harris Award from the Alumni Association in 2008.

Similar to her generosity with the college, those who knew her remember that Ms. Wofford Frazier was always the first person to offer help to someone in need.

My thoughts and prayers will be with Ms. Wofford Frazier's family during this most difficult time.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 1 minute a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. PINGREE) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving God, Lord of us all, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

You, O Lord, are the source of life and love. You hear the prayer of Congress, both for the good of this Nation and for the good of humanity around the world. Help this Congress and the President to discern your will in our day.

May short-term gains, self-interest, or partisan advantage never prove to be an obstacle to true vision. Rather, Lord, grant to each member depth of perception, clear analysis, and creative response to the needs of our time.

Today we especially remember our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico as they recover from yet another natural disaster. Bless them, and especially those who labor, sometimes dangerously, to help in the long return to normalcy on that beleaguered island.

In these days give wisdom to all Members. And may all that is done 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 her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BROWNLEY of California 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.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise for a parliamentary inquiry or a series thereof.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, am I correct that H. Res. 755 was passed by vote of the House on December 18, 2019?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not verify the status of a measure not currently pending.

Mr. GRIFFITH. A measure not currently pending.

Additional parliamentary inquiry, please.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, since H. Res. 755 passed on December 18, 2019, and the motion to reconsider H. Res. 755 was laid on the table on that same date, December 18, 2019, is there any action the House of Representatives can now take on H. Res. 755?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair does not respond to hypothetical questions.

Mr. GRIFFITH. It is not a hypothetical.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair does not respond to hypothetical questions.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Additional parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. I am not inquiring hypothetically. I may wish to take action. Is there any action currently available to a Member of the House in regard to H. Res. 755?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair does not issue advisory opinions.

Mr. GRIFFITH. All right. Further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Is H. Res. 755 currently within the bosom of the U.S. House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is inquiring about the status of a measure not currently pending on the House floor.

Mr. GRIFFITH. I thank the Speaker. Additional parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Since 21 calendar days, 12 working days, and seven legislative days have gone by since H. Res. 755 passed the House and the Speaker of the House has not been physically able to deliver H. Res. 755 to the United States Senate, does clause 8(b)(3)(C) of rule I of the House rules automatically cause a vacancy in the Office of the Speaker, or what action does the House need to take since the Speaker has not been able to physically do an essential part of her administrative duties as the Speaker of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has stated the form of clause 8(b)(3) of rule I. However, the gentleman is not stating a parliamentary question within the purview of the Chair at this point. The gentleman is free to consult the rule and its accompanying legislative history for further clarification.

Mr. GRIFFITH. I thank the Chair.

Additional parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Reviewing its parliamentary history, I would ask the Chair, is there any precedent, other than incapacity, of a Speaker not timely transmitting action of the House to the United States Senate?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not issue an advisory opinion. The Chair is prepared to entertain one more parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Additional parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, clause 8(b)(3)(C) says that a physical incapacity to do the job of Speaker causes or may cause a vacancy. I am asking if there is any precedent related to that rule that the Chair can direct me to, having found none on my own?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will again respond that she will not issue an advisory opinion.

Mr. GRIFFITH. I respectfully disagree that it is an advisory opinion and thank the Chair for her indulgence.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TAKE ACTION ON PFAS

(Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I come to the well of the House today to call on my colleagues to support the PFAS Action Act. This bill, like so many that have come to the floor under Democratic leadership, is about taking action for the people; in this case, ensuring access to clean and safe water.

PFAS, so-called forever chemicals that have leached into water supplies for decades, are hazardous to human health. Their presence is linked with reduced kidney function, reduced immune system function, and increased risk for diseases like diabetes and cancer.

These chemicals are in our water because of corporate negligence, and like in many other cases, our working families trying to make ends meet are hit the hardest. That is why it is critical that Congress step up and take action, and that is why this legislation is so important and what it is about.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up for the people and vote for the PFAS Action Act.

FORT JACKSON EXPANSION

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am grateful for the addition of the Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Advanced Individual Training courses at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, which is one of the most military friendly communities in America.

Civil affairs and psychological operation soldiers bring unique skill sets. The relocation of Fort Jackson, where over half of all soldiers attend basic training, effectively organizes courses in the Army Training and Doctrine Command environment.

Through job growth at Fort Jackson, the local economy of Columbia will benefit with nearly \$5 million in initial establishment, and \$3.5 annually.

Congratulations to Commanding General Milford Beagle, Jr., of Fort Jackson on this expansion. I appreciate his extraordinary leadership.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th, defeating terrorists overseas, in the global war on terrorism with the courageous leadership of President Donald Trump.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Nawres Hamid, an Iraqi American Muslim from California who was murdered by the Soleimani-financed terrorists on December 27.

SALUTING JACK YATES HIGH SCHOOL

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House