



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 166

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020

No. 10

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 16, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR 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: Gracious and merciful God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

The House prepares to recess for a week of constituent visitation in home districts as the Nation anticipates the Martin Luther King long weekend.

As we remember the heroic struggle of the civil rights movement, the "badges and incidents of slavery" have perdured through policies still operative today, though recently being addressed through efforts at criminal justice reform and sentencing reform.

The pains of racism, like a national genetic defect, plague us still, though so many wish it were not so. Lord, have mercy on us.

Bless those who have been elected to secure laws protecting and expanding our cherished freedoms with the wisdom and vision to root out all traces of involuntary servitude in our Nation, most notably in human trafficking in our own time, so might we be able to declare with pride we are the land of the free.

May we, as Americans, do our part to find the image and likeness of God in those of different race or ancestral country of origin.

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.

Mr. COX of California. Mr. 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. COX of California. Mr. 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 gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CHABOT 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests

HONORING RAYMOND LERMA

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

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Raymond Lerma, a beloved husband, father, and leader in the community of Corcoran, California. Ray passed away on January 11.

Among his many honored roles in life, Ray served 25 years as mayor and councilman in Corcoran, California. He was a pillar of the community.

Ray was born in El Paso, Texas, and raised in Corcoran in a large and loving family that proudly farmed the crops of the Central Valley. Encouraged by his parents to reach for higher education, Mr. Lerma graduated from UC Berkeley. He was a proud Cal Bear.

After college, Ray returned to the community that raised him to build his own family with his beloved wife, Lola. He touched countless lives in his 38 years as an educator at Corcoran High.

After retirement, he kept changing lives, teaching English as a second language to adult learners. Ray also served as a longtime board member of the King's Community Action Organization, which helps to bring resources to the Central Valley.

Ray once said he wanted to be remembered as someone who made a difference in his community. I stand before you today to say he will always be remembered for his dedication and contributions to his community. We will miss his leadership.

Ray leaves behind his wife, Lola; their three children, Eva, Ramon, and Pablo; as well as his grandchildren.

May he rest in peace.

☐ 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.



Printed on recycled paper.

H303

HONORING THE LIFE OF JIMMY PATRONIS, SR.

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

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jimmy Patronis, Sr., a local legend in Bay County, Florida, where he recently passed away at the age of 88.

Mr. Patronis truly lived a life in full, one of family, entrepreneurship, and of service to our community.

He served as a captain in the United States Air Force and then moved to Panama City in 1953 to join in the restaurant business with his brother, Johnny Patronis.

The brothers purchased Captain Anderson's, which has been in his family's ownership ever since and has become a favorite spot for people who are visiting Panama City.

From a very young age, Jimmy had an unwavering desire to serve others and make the world a better place. He had an enormous staff, and he treated all of them like family.

He leaves behind the love of his life, Helen, and four sons: Theo, Yonnie, Nick, and the current Florida chief financial officer and friend of mine, Jimmy, Jr.

Jimmy Patronis will be sorely missed by many. May he rest in peace.

HONORING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the late, great Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On June 23, 1963, in my hometown of Detroit, Michigan, Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered an impassioned precursor to his "I Have a Dream" speech during the historic Detroit Walk to Freedom, which recognized the 20th anniversary of the Detroit race riots.

With over 120,000 people present, the Detroit Walk to Freedom was the largest civil rights demonstration in the Nation's history. Of course, we all know that soon changed just a few weeks later with the March on Washington.

As a young Black girl growing up on the east side of Detroit, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was more than just a public figure; he was our hope. Today, I am honored to have the chance to recognize him and his work and will continue to do my part to ensure his legacy lives on.

And in today's environment, here in Washington, D.C., and this Congress, we must refocus on the ability to recognize every person based on their character, their skills and abilities, and not based on race.

RECOGNIZING BRADEN ZUKOWSKI ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Braden Zukowski of Saxonburg, Pennsylvania. Braden is a high school senior at Knoch High School. He is the son of Brad Zukowski and Shauna Braun-Zukowski.

I am pleased to announce that Braden recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Braden is a shining example of what leadership looks like. His hard work and dedication to excellence in and out of the classroom are the qualities that will make him a great midshipman. I am confident that he will continue to excel during his time at the Naval Academy.

Not only is Braden a leader in the classroom, he has also excelled in sports, serving as captain of the Knoch High School swim and cross country teams. He is also an active member of the chemistry, Spanish, history, and robotics clubs, as well as a National Honor Society member.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Braden's decision to join our Nation's Armed Forces, and I wish him the best of luck in his new venture.

FACING A TIME OF NEED FOR THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO

(Ms. WILD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of over 3 million of our fellow Americans who are facing a time of need right now, the people of Puerto Rico.

Several of my colleagues have been working tirelessly to convey the voices of the people of Puerto Rico following the earthquakes that they have been experiencing over the past several weeks. Those voices must be more widely heard in the media and across our society because our fellow Americans are calling out for help.

The damage caused by this most recent disaster comes in addition to the devastation of Hurricane Maria and the grossly inadequate Federal response to that tragedy.

Today, the administration confirmed that it would finally end its hold on disaster aid relief that Congress authorized for Puerto Rico years ago. Now, in the wake of this most recent tragedy, the President must approve a major disaster declaration today.

Constituents across my community have reached out to me with deep concern for their friends and families, and nearly all of us represent constituents

of Puerto Rican origin. We cannot turn our backs on our fellow citizens. We must stand with them and come to their aid.

CONGRATULATING COACH PAT McLAUGHLIN

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach Pat McLaughlin, the head football coach at my alma mater, La Salle High School, for a significant accomplishment.

I played for La Salle back in the day, and my brother, Dave, played 10 years later.

Coach McLaughlin has been nominated for the NFL's Don Shula High School Coach of the Year award. This prestigious honor recognizes the best high school football coaches across the country for their character, integrity, leadership, dedication to the community, commitment to player protection, and on-field success.

In December, Coach McLaughlin led the La Salle Lancers to their fourth Ohio Division II football championship in the last 6 years. As this nomination affirms, he has been a leader both on and off the field.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Coach McLaughlin, as well as all the La Salle players and their families and everyone involved in the Lancer football program. They have all made, and continue to make, the entire Cincinnati community tremendously proud.

Lancers Roll Deep.

SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE SLOW IMPEACHMENT PROCESS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shed some light on how slow this urgent impeachment process really unfolded.

The missile crawler-transporter used to transfer the NASA spacecraft to the launch pad travels at a rate of about 5,000 feet per hour. The slowest animal on Earth, the three-toed sloth, can travel at a speed of 792 feet per hour. The California banana slug can travel at 240 feet per hour, amazingly enough.

It is approximately 610 feet from the House desk to the Senate desk. It took 28 days for Speaker PELOSI to send the articles to the Senate at a rate of about 11 inches per hour.

Mr. Speaker, House Democrats never thought this was an urgent matter of national security, as was stated. Urgent matters don't move at 11 inches per hour. Indeed, there was time to use about a dozen different souvenir pens to sign the document one letter at a time yesterday.

The dishonesty, the misdirection of House Democrats surrounding this impeachment process—well, the American public has had 28-plus days to figure this out.