The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, February 17, 2020, at 1:45 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2020

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLAY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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


I hereby appoint the Honorable W. M. LACY CLAY 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:

Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. As the House lies silent, bless all Members as they encounter constituents in their home districts.

Bless the people of this great Nation with wisdom, knowledge, and understanding that they might responsibly participate in our American democracy by making their interests known to their representatives. Please keep all who work for the people’s House in good health that they may faithfully fulfill the great responsibility given them in their service to the work of the Capitol.

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

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 844, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is 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,

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,

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 February 13, 2020, at 5:04 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S.J. Res. 68.
That the Senate passed S. 490.
That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 1365.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

ROBERT F. REEVES,
Deputy Clerk.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker’s table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 490. An act to designate a mountain ridge in the State of Montana as “B-47 Ridge” to the Committee on Natural Resources.

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Robert F. Reeves, Deputy Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 504. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Department of Homeland Security to develop an engagement strategy with fusion centers, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 80. Joint resolution approving the request of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for a waiver under section 17032(f) of title 38, United States Code.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

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

S. 375. An act to improve efforts to identify and reduce Governmentwide improper payments, and for other purposes.

S. 394. An act to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to improve the orderly transfer of the executive power during Presidential transitions.

S. 2167. An act to increase the number of CBP Agriculture Specialists and support
staff in the Office of Field Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 65. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of John Fouy as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S.J. Res. 67. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Risam Mourey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 844, the House stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

Thereupon (at 11 o’clock and 3 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, February 18, 2020, at 10:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

3827. A letter from the Chair, Board of Governor, of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board’s semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, pursuant to Public Law 106-569; to the Committee on Financial Services.

3828. A letter from the Program Specialist, Chief Counsel’s Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Other Real Estate Owned and Technical Amendments; Correction [Docket ID: OCC-2019-0004] (RIN: 1557-AE50) received February 13, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

3829. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the Office’s report on discretionary appropriations legislative titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

3830. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 28-D0, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3831. A letter from the Associate Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Passports; Clarification of Previous Rule Relating to Treatment of Serious Tax Debt [Public Notice: 10921] (RIN: 1400-AE90) received February 13, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3832. A letter from the Director, Drug Enforcement Administration, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Import Restrictions on Impersonation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3833. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Dispute Resolution Division, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Import Restrictions Impersonation of the Disaster Information Material From Ecuador [CBP Dec. 20-03] (RIN: 1515-AE52) received February 13, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. GRAVES of Missouri (for himself and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.R. 5912. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to permit the use of incentive payments to expedite certain federally financed airport development projects; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ABBOTT (for himself, Mr. Hurd of Texas, and Mr. CONWAY):

H.R. 5909. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Children’s Museum to provide the National Children’s Museum rental space without charge in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BARRAGAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COURTNLEY, Mr. COX of California, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. ESCH, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HULTCY, Mr. HUNDAWAY, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MCKINNEY, Mr. PINKNEY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. WILD, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. COERKA, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. LOJAN):

H.R. 5920. A bill to encourage and facilitate efforts by States and other stakeholders to conserve and sustain the western population of monarch butterflies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and Appropriations, 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. CASTRO of Texas:

H.J. Res. 85. A joint resolution relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019, to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 360. A resolution recognizing the rise of cardiovascular disease as the world’s leading cause of preventable death and disability and as a global crisis and supporting the recognition of February 2020 as “American Heart Month”; to the
CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri:
H.R. 5912.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. ABBOTT:
H.R. 5913.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 provides Congress with the power to "lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises" in order to "provide for the general welfare of the United States."
By Mr. BLUMENTHALE:
H.R. 5914.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. COHEN:
H.R. 5915.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. GALLAGHER:
H.R. 5916.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Ms. LEE of California:
H.R. 5917.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.
By Ms. MATSU:
H.R. 5918.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution
By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 5919.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.
By Mr. PANETTA:
H.R. 5920.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 18
By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:
H.J. Res. 85.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)
THE U.S. CONSTITUTION
ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS
Clause 18
The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:
H.R. 273: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 372: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 712: Mr. PETRINSON and Mr. LEVIN of California.
H.R. 945: Ms. SHEEHILL.
H.R. 1043: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 733: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 1374: Mr. GOHMERT and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1400: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 1493: Mr. PIETERS.
H.R. 1553: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 1597: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 1727: Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 1766: Mr. SHIMKUS, Ms. BASS, and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 1840: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 1878: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 2117: Mr. RUGOELMAN.
H.R. 2208: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 2218: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 2233: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Ms. SCALAN.
H.R. 2432: Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 2478: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 2528: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 2564: Mr. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 2571: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.R. 2653: Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. WATSON, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. KRANNA, and Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 2705: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2802: Mrs. WARNER.
H.R. 2831: Mrs. TORRES of California.
H.R. 2853: Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 2867: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 2923: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 3396: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 3414: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 3456: Ms. SHEEHILL.
H.R. 3561: Mr. EMER and Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 3771: Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 3826: Mr. MCDAMS.
H.R. 3926: Mr. EVANS and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 3964: Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 4020: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 4092: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 4104: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 4140: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 4341: Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 4350: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 4664: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 4881: Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 4970: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 5170: Mr. GIUForte.
H.R. 5320: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 5864: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. RODNEY.
H.R. 5896: Ms. STEVENS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCDAMS, Ms. WILD, and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 5932: Ms. HOULAHAN and Ms. LOPUREN.
H.R. 5965: Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 5986: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 5999: Ms. BEATTY.
H.R. 6051: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 5104: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 5141: Mr. BEKA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. MENG, Mr. BLUMENTHALE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. GJHALVA.
H.R. 5170: Mr. GUEST and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 5269: Mr. HASTING.
H.R. 5297: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 5306: Ms. LOPUREN, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. FUC.
H.R. 5319: Mr. PEBLUMUTTER.
H.R. 5491: Mr. COOK.
H.R. 5496: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 5498: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 5505: Mr. LOPUREN.
H.R. 5569: Mr. MOUTH and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 5595: Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 5598: Mr. BLUMENTHALE and Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 5602: Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. HEC.
H.R. 5609: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 5702: Mr. AKRAH.
H.R. 5706: Mr. RESCHENTHALE and Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 5729: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 5785: Mr. FUGATT.
H.R. 5812: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 5826: Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.
H.R. 5862: Mr. LONG, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.R. 5866: Mr. HASTING.
H.R. 5889: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas and Mr. TRONE.
H. Con. Res. 12: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H. Con. Res. 13: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H. Con. Res. 96: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H. Con. Res. 574: Mrs. HAYES.
H. Res. 841: Mrs. WALTER.
H. Res. 859: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Ms. LEE of California.
IN MEMORY OF FRED O. PLACKE III

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Fred O. Placke III. He was a businessman, educator, realtor, public servant and humanitarian.

As a college student at Tarleton State in Stephenville, Texas, Mr. Placke and a small group of fellow football players distributed donated gifts to children at a local foster home. Over the past four decades, he expanded that initial charitable endeavor into an annual community Christmas event in Goldthwaite, Texas as he and a multitude of volunteer "elves" delivered moving trucks full of thousands of presents for children at the New Horizons Foster Home.

After graduation, Mr. Placke returned to his hometown of Spring Woods where he taught history and coached football. Later in his teaching career, he taught U.S. government at Marcus High School in Flower Mound, Texas and was voted "Teacher of the Year" in 1997. Two years later, he was elected to the Lewisville ISD Board of Trustees and subsequently served for twelve years; six of those years, he led the Board as President. Fred Placke was a passionate educator, dedicated leader and active community volunteer. He was a beloved husband, father and grandfather and will be sorely missed by his family and friends to whom I extend my sincere condolences.

TRUMP BUDGET CUTS TO SNAP

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak for our food insecure families. Federal anti-hunger programs like SNAP play a vital role in the lives of 12th District families, but the Trump Budget slashes $182 billion from food assistance programs. President Trump’s proposal to cut SNAP benefits comes on the heels of three USDA rules which will cut benefits for almost 4 million Americans and jeopardize 1 million children’s access to free school breakfast and lunch.

These are real people they’re hurting. These are our children, our friends, our neighbors.

Here’s the sad truth: this President wants to pay for his billionaire tax cuts by letting children starve.

A couple months ago, I visited Windsor Park Elementary School in Charlotte as they were putting together their first food pantry for students.

Of their 650 students, many are homeless and 150 have immediate needs.

Their food pantry was put together because students kept asking their teachers and administrators for food.

Principal Shanna Rae told a local TV station that "you can tell a difference in students when they have something to eat."

That’s not Oliver Twist: sadly, that’s our community.

Over 20 million children across our country rely on SNAP. Instead of cutting SNAP, we should expand it, so that children and families don’t have to worry about where their next meal is going to come from.

Scripture tells us that Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

How can we expect them to do that if they have nothing to eat?

HONORING MARGARET WHEELCHER AS A VETERAN AND AS A PART OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. CHERI BUSTOS OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margaret Patricia Wheelcher for her achievements in the United States Air Force for Black History Month. Ms. Wheelcher served from August 3, 1988 to November 5, 1991 and earned the rank of Senior Airman.

Senior Airman Wheelcher trained at Lackland Air Force Base and Langley Air Force Base, and was part of the 1913 Communications Group. Her dedication and passion are evident, I commend Senior Airman Wheelcher for her service and honor her as a part of the Black History Month Program in Rockford called “Capturing American History: The Unique Perspective of the African American Female Service Member.” I would like to thank Senior Airman Wheelcher for her service and recognize her for her experiences as an African American, female service member.

It is because of community leaders like Margaret that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor Margaret Patricia Wheelcher for her service in the United States Air Force.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN DAVID OWEN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary work and life of service of Captain David Owen of the University of North Texas Police Department in Denton, Texas.

Captain David Owen began his law enforcement career with the Titus County Sheriff’s Office in 2004. He was hired by the University of North Texas Police Department on June 13, 2005 as a Police Officer. He served the UNT students, faculty, and staff until his death on February 11, 2020 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Captain Owen received a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and political science from Midwestern State University and a graduate certification in criminal justice education from the University of Virginia. He also attended several leadership training programs including the 270th session of the FBI National Academy, the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators Executive...
Development Institute and the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration’s School of Police Supervision.

At the time of his death, Captain Owen supervised the Field Services unit of the police department, overseeing patrol and special events planning. His prior roles in the department include a position as Police Support Services Unit Supervisor, Criminal Investigator and Patrol Officer. Captain Owen was a certified TCOLE Master Peace Officer and Police Instructor. He had served on UNT’s Student Support Task Force, and earned a Police Commendation and the Excellence in Public Service award, as well as being recognized by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving).

David Owen was extremely tough and resilient in his last fight, a reflection of the type of person he was—dedicated to performing the job well and to the best of his abilities. He stood up for what he believed was right but was always thoughtful enough to consider the viewpoints of others. He believed strongly in educating himself and others so that clear and informed decisions could be made. He is survived by his wife Joy and their six children who live in Krum, Texas.

Captain Owen devoted over 20 years of his life to protect and serve his community, putting strangers’ safety above his own, and we are indebted to him. His positive impact and contributions to the UNT Police Department and UNT community will be sorely missed. I am deeply grateful for his service and pray for comfort and peace for his wife, children and friends.

RECOGNIZING THE TYSONS REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE INCOMING 2020 BOARD MEMBERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce and to congratulate the incoming 2020 board members.

Tysons has drastically transformed during the past 56 years from a sleepy, rural area to one of the most vibrant regions in the country. This change began when the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved plans for the Tysons Corner Shopping Center in 1962. When the mall opened in 1968, it was hailed as the largest enclosed mall in the world.

Since then, there has been a dramatic influx of technology companies, government contracting firms, and other corporations. Tysons has become the premier business district of the Washington Metropolitan Area and is one of the largest employment centers in the United States. With the opening of Metro’s Silver Line and ongoing redevelopment, the region is expected to continue adding not only businesses but also high-density residential housing. 45 million square feet of transit-oriented development is already present in Tysons and more is on the way.

The mission of the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce is to be the unified voice of the business community while ensuring that its ties and commitment to the community are strengthened.

The Chamber actively promotes local nonprofits and community organizations as well as youth educational programs, and it sponsors multiple events each year in support of these activities. The growth of the Chamber has been the result of the diversity of its members and the leadership of its Board. I am pleased to include the following names of the incoming 2020 board members:

Chairman of the Board: Tucker Gladhill
At-Large Members: Adelle Elia, Alex Levy, Andrew Clark, Angela Inzerillo, Anthony Anikeeff, Brenda MacRoberts, Courtney Pierce, Diana Villarreal, Dr. Michelle Walker, Gina Westfall, Jeff Brouse, Kara Shelton, Kathy McNell, Ken Fischer, Kevin Corey, Kevin Schafer, Maureen Caufield, Maurice Springier, Miriam Tadross, Micah Edmond, Mike Bitt, Peter Fish, Richard Luttrell, Timothy Klinkner, Tracy Harris, Vicki Warker.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the incoming board members and in commending the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce for its commitment to promoting the business community while encouraging social responsibility and civic engagement. I wish the Chamber the very best for its continued growth and success.

IN HONOR OF TOWRINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT’S 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. LIZ CHENEY
OF WYOMING
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Torrington Volunteer Fire Department on celebrating 100 years of dedicated service to Torrington and the surrounding community.

When it was formed on February 14, 1920, the department consisted of a horse-drawn cart and a fire bell. In the years that followed, the department received modern engines like the 1934 Ford engine that has been fully restored and is on display at the firehouse today. Volunteer fire companies play a critical role in keeping our communities safe, and I extend my thanks to all the volunteers—past and present—who have dedicated their time to Torrington. Today represents a milestone in the storied history of the department, and I know they will continue to serve their community with distinction for the next 100 years as well.

Again, Madam Speaker, I extend my congratulations to the Torrington Volunteer Fire Department for 100 years of service.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF HELEN SEKUTOWSKI

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Helen Sekutowski, a resident of Westland, Michigan, as she celebrates her ninetieth birthday.

Ms. Sekutowski was born in Detroit on February 25, 1930 to Polish immigrant parents. She carries a life-long pride in her Polish ancestry. Ms. Sekutowski’s devotion to community and family are apparent. She, along with her husband Eugene, created a loving home for their six children. She is committed to living a positive and spiritual life, attending mass services every Sunday. Her light and love for life is demonstrated through the positive spirit and impact that she has on her friends and neighbors.

Please join me in celebrating Helen Sekutowski’s ninetieth birthday as we wish her many more to come.

CONGRATULATING THE VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSFIELD FOR RECEIVING THE 2019 GOVERNOR’S HOMETOWN AWARD CUP

HON. CHERI BUSTOS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the village of Williamsfield, Illinois for receiving the 2019 Governor’s Hometown Award Cup for the Playground Barn Raising Project. The Williamsfield Park District and Williamsfield Future Farmers of America Alumni and Friends worked together to make this project possible.

The Governor’s Hometown Award Cup has been bestowed every year since 1983 to recognize those who have contributed to projects that improve quality of life in the community. When the playground in Williamsfield village park started deteriorating, $150,000 were raised to build a multi-level playground barn with several other play features. Seventy-seven volunteers were recruited and gave 2,032 hours to build these structures. The award committee noted that the “inspirational barn raising promotes physical activity among youth and embodies the power of volunteerism.” This marks the first time the award has gone to anyone in Knox County, Illinois. Williamsfield will keep the trophy for a year and the Illinois Department of Transportation will set up a road sign in the community for the award. I commend Williamsfield for their dedication to the community.

It is because of the community leaders, volunteers and everyone who made the Playground Barn Raising Project possible in Williamsfield that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate the village of Williamsfield for winning the 2019 Governor’s Hometown Award Cup.

REMEMBERING CLIFFORD C. KUNKEL

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and service of Colonel Clifford C. Kunkel, a decorated Air Force veteran and active member of his community in California.
Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for the Equal Rights Amendment. For 20 years in the North Carolina General Assembly, I fought tirelessly to get our state to ratify the ERA.

And, since joining this body in 2014, I have supported the ERA in every Congress.

That’s why I was overjoyed to see Virginia’s vote last month to become the 38th and final state needed to ratify the ERA.

For 100 years women in North Carolina, Virginia, and all across this country have been fighting for the ERA. And, since joining this body in 2014, I have supported the ERA in every Congress.

For 100 years women in North Carolina, Virginia, and all across this country have been fighting for the ERA.

And we shouldn’t have to wait another 100 years to get equal justice under the law.

To this day, women are still paid less for our work, face workplace harassment, and are discriminated against simply for being who they are.

Women who work full time, year-round still only make 82 cents on the dollar for men’s earnings. For women of color, the disparity is even worse. Black women make only 62 cents, Latinas make 54 cents, and Native women make 58 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men.

Sixty to seventy percent of women face sexual harassment during their careers. Sixty-two percent of pregnant women and new moms are in the workforce, yet under current law, pregnant workers can be placed on unpaid leave or forced out of their jobs because of a pregnancy.

These are just some of the reasons that ratifying the ERA is so important. The ERA would help us fight those battles by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in our most important, foundational document: the Constitution.

I think we can all agree that our courts shouldn’t have the option to treat women as less than equal.

The Constitution was designed to be amended. Our founders made mistakes. They counted one-third of the population as three-fifths of a person. They allowed slavery to persist in our country. They weren’t Gods; they were men.

And, as times change, we have a responsibility to change with them to ensure ALL people are afforded equal protections and rights. To quote Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, “I ask no favor for my sex; all I ask of our brethren is that they take their feet off our necks.”

That’s why we won’t rest until women and men are finally equal under the eyes of the law.

HONORING MR. SYED BABAR ALI ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 94TH BIRTHDAY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize an individual who has made enormous contributions to our global community, Mr. Syed Babar Ali, who will be celebrating his 94th birthday this year. In celebration of this occasion, it is only fitting that I and my colleagues take a moment to reflect and recognize some of the contributions he has made throughout his life.

Mr. Ali was born in Lahore, Pakistan in 1926. 

Mr. Ali has also contributed to the betterment of Pakistan and the world in ways beyond business and education. In 1993, he served as Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs and Planning for Pakistan’s caretaker government and has served the World Wildlife Fund International in various capacities including President. In 1985 he established the Babar Ali Foundation that contributes approximately $1 million each year primarily to education and health initiatives in Pakistan. In recognition of his efforts and countless contributions, he has received honors and awards from the governments of Sweden and the Netherlands, an Order of the British Empire (OBE), and an honorary Doctorate Degree Law from McGill University. These successes would perhaps not have been possible without the support of his beloved wife of 65 years Perwin, his children Henna and...
Hyder, and his grandchildren Mubarak, Zehra, Murtaza and Gauhar.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this remarkable individual on his 94th birthday and in wishing him and his family continued health and happiness.

HONORING LANA MCCANTS AS A VETERAN AND AS A PART OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. CHERI BUSTOS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lana McCants for her achievements in the United States Navy for Black History Month. Ms. McCants served from May of 1991 to January of 1997 and earned the rank of Operations Specialist Third Class. Operations Specialist Third Class McCants trained at the Orlando Naval Training Station and the Virginia Beach Naval Technical Training Facility. She was part of the crew of the USS Acadia, the Point Loma Naval Submarine Station, the USS David R. Ray, and Operation Desert Storm. I commend her for her service and honor her as a part of the Black History Month Program in Rockford called “Capturing American History: The Unique Perspective of the African-American Female Service Member.” I would like to thank Lana McCants for her service and recognize her for her experiences as an African American female service member. She has shown true commitment, leadership and determination throughout her time in the Navy.

It is because of community leaders like Lana that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor Lana McCants for her service in the United States Navy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FILEMON VELA
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed Roll Call Vote 37 on February 5, 2020. I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2382, USPS Fairness Act, and, had I been present and voting, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call 37.

HONORING ABDULLAH EL-AMIN
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Imam Abdullah El-Amin’s commitment to community service.

Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, Abdullah El-Amin moved to Detroit, Michigan at the age of 7. His interest in the sciences led him to Shari‘at College, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Chemistry and worked for twenty years as a medical technologist at various laboratories.

Abdullah El-Amin was called to pursue a more spiritual path. In 1983, Imam Abdullah, along with other members of the community, founded the Muslim Center of Detroit. It was incorporated in 1985. The mosque was founded primarily as a place for worship and as an outreach center to bring people from different religious backgrounds together. Imam Abdullah has always been passionate in his belief that interfaith dialogue creates stronger and more meaningful relationships across cultures.

Imam El-Amin is known for his ability to create connections across communities, and he has served as a delegate for projects internationally. Imam El-Amin also co-founded and served as the Executive Director of the Michigan Muslim Community Council (formerly, the Council of Islamic Organizations of Michigan). His work there allowed him to forge many relationships and friendships with the broader Muslim community. In addition, he founded Crescent Janazah Services after seeing the need for quality end-of-life care in the Metro-Detroit area, where he fostered the assistance of hundreds, if not thousands of families in their time of need. In addition to his spiritual and charitable work, Imam El-Amin is passionate about civic engagement. He served former mayor Dennis Archer as manager of the Neighborhood City Hall.

Imam El-Amin is foremost a family man. He was married to the love of his life, Dr. Cheryl El-Amin who he misses terribly. They are the parents of three children, Maurice, a high school principal; Zarinah, anthropologist and cultural entrepreneur; and Idris, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

Please join me in saluting Imam El-Amin, as we recognize his many contributions to the spiritual and civic life of Detroit.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL CHILDREN’S MUSEUM ACT

HON. ELEONOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, February 14, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the National Children’s Museum Act, which would require the Administrator of the General Services Administration (GSA) to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Children’s Museum (NCM) to allow NCM to remain in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, a federally owned building, without charge. My bill would allow the newly redesigned NCM, the nation’s first combination children’s museum and science center, to remain centrally located in the nation’s capital for the benefit of all.

Original named the Capital Children’s Museum, NCM was a staple in the District of Columbia for decades. The institution opened in 1974 in a former convent on H Street Northeast. In 2003, Congress recognized the immense value in having a children’s museum in the District and officially designated the museum the National Children’s Museum. By 2004, NCM had outgrown its home on H Street, but had difficulty securing a new location. Since 2015, NCM’s presence has been digital, serving as an O.C. Public school students and public libraries online.

Now located in its new home in the Ronald Reagan Building at 1300 Pennsylvania Ave.

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RECOGNIZING BRAD GORDON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Friday, February 14, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my dear and longtime friend Brad Gordon on the occasion of his retirement, concluding a career of dedicated public service and advocacy spanning more than 40 years.

Brad Gordon has personified excellence throughout his career. He graduated cum laude and with Honors in Politics from Brandeis University in 1971. He went on to earn a Master of Arts in Political Science from the University of Vermont, a Master of Philosophy from Columbia University, and a Certificate from their Middle East Institute. While at Columbia, Brad was a National Defense Foreign Language Fellow in Arabic, while also serving as a Research Assistant. By 1979 he had begun his career in public service, working for the Central Intelligence Agency as a Political Analyst in the Office of Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis.

Brad spent 6 years at the CIA before he transitioned to a legislative role as both a foreign policy advisor for Senator Rudy Boschwitwitz (R–MN), and as a professional staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where I had the privilege of also serving.

Based on his wealth of foreign policy knowledge and experience, Brad was appointed the Assistant Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency for Nonproliferation Policy. During his tenure, he served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Fourth Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in Geneva. He was responsible for issues related to the proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons.

In 1993, Brad became the Staff Director of the International Operations Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, where he helped oversee the operations of the State Department, the Agency for International Development, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the U.S. Information Agency.

In 1995, Brad started working on constituent and issue advocacy as the Legislative Director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). He went on to serve as the Director of Policy and Government Affairs and eventually as the Director for Strategic Policy at AIPAC. Throughout his career, Brad was an asset to all those around him. His intelligence, veracity, unflagging work ethic, persistence, and quality of character are unquestionable.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating my friend, Brad Gordon on his retirement and in wishing him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING MILANA HERMAN AS A VETERAN AND AS A PART OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. CHERI BUSTOS OF ILLINOIS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Friday, February 14, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Milana Herman for her achievements in the United States Army for Black History Month. Ms. Herman served in the Active Army from 1989 to 1994 and the Army Reserve from 1994 to 1997 and earned the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Staff Sergeant Herman served as part of the HHC 440th Signal Battalion in Germany, the HHC 4th Battalion 58th Aviation regiment in South Korea, and the HHC 25th Signal Brigade Battalion in Ft. Bragg, North Carolina during her time in the Active Army. She served in the 335th Company 4th Brigade, 85 Division in the Army Reserve. I commend her for her service and honor her as a part of the Black History Month Program in Rockford called “Capturing American History: The Unique Perspective of the African American Female Service Member.” I would like to thank Milana Herman for her service and recognize her for her experiences as an African American female servicemember. Her bravery, strength and patriotism are admirable.

It is because of community leaders like Milana that I am especially proud to serve Illinois’ 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor Milana Herman for her service in the United States Army.
**Daily Digest**

**Senate**

**Chamber Action**

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 1:45 p.m., on Monday, February 17, 2020.

**Committee Meetings**

No committee meetings were held.

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**House of Representatives**

**Chamber Action**

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 9 public bills, H.R. 5912–5920; and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 85; and H. Res. 860, were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Clay to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Senate Referrals: S.J. Res. 68 was held at the desk. S. 490 was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1159.

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

**Committee Meetings**

No hearings were held.

**Joint Meetings**

No joint committee meetings were held.

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**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

**Senate**

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

**House**

No hearings are scheduled.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
1:45 p.m., Monday, February 17

Senate Chamber
Program for Monday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 18

House Chamber
Program for Tuesday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10:30 a.m.

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February 14, 2020

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