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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YARMUTH).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 3, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN A. YARMUTH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2020, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

STILL I RISE

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, proud to be an American, proud to be a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

I rise today because I refuse to accept the notion that we should get back to bigotry as usual in the House of Representatives. I am one who has fought bigotry most of my life, and I will continue to fight it for the rest of my life.

Today, I want to talk about bigotry, not only within the country, but I also

want to talk about those who aid and abet bigotry in the House of Representatives. Right here in this House there are people who aid and abet bigotry.

I spoke last on the floor about a Newsday report. It concerned an investigation that took place in the State of New York. And within this investigation it was uncovered that, with reference to real estate agents, after having tested them, it was uncovered that 19 percent of the time Asian Americans were treated unequally when compared to White Americans. Thirty-nine percent of the time Hispanic Americans were treated unequally. And 49 percent of the time African Americans were treated unequally.

We sought to do something about this in the Financial Services Committee. We have a piece of legislation that will provide for testing and expand the testing that was started in this country by President Ronald Reagan.

President Reagan gave us the paradigm which we seek to enhance, which we seek to expand because that is the means by which we can eliminate this kind of invidious discrimination. It is not a question of way; it is a question of whether we have the will to challenge it and take it on.

I want to tell you that in my committee there were those who would aid and abet. They came up with specious arguments, fallacious contentions, the notion that we can do without, without saying we can do without the improvements.

I believe this kind of aiding and abetting is the reason we still have this level of invidious discrimination in this country. There are people in this Congress who aid and abet racism and discrimination. We have to call this out. We cannot continue to pretend that it does not exist right here in the Congress of the United States of America.

I plan to come back to this podium, and I am going to say more about what

happened and who caused it to happen. Those who tolerate bigotry and racism perpetuate bigotry and racism. I refuse to be among those who tolerate it.

IMPROVING SECURITY ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, every parent's worst nightmare is to learn that their children's school may be one of the sites of mass violence. Schools should not be a place where our kids have to fear, it should be where they learn, and grow, and follow their dreams.

No child should have to be more concerned about their safety than they are about their science project, band concert, or basketball game.

That is why last year, I and many others introduced the Securing Our Schools Act in the last Congress, passed it on to the President, and it was signed into law.

I was proud that our bipartisan bill passed the House and Senate and was signed into law by the President. The new law creates a Federal grant program for local communities to improve security in their schools.

School districts and law enforcement can use these critical funds to purchase life-saving technology, panic alert systems, communications equipment, cameras, door locks, or to better train authorities when incidents of violence might occur.

Last year, \$33 million in grants were allocated to 103 school districts nationwide, making four million students safer. The application process is now open for grants for the 2021 fiscal year.

Please urge local officials, those in your district to visit cops.doj.gov for more information on how to apply for up to \$500,000 in grants through the School Violence Prevention Program. Once again, that is cops.doj.gov.

□ 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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