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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 5, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ANDY KIM to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Kevin F. O'Brien, S.J., Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California, offered the following prayer:

Loving God, creator of all, we thank You for the gift of another day, to live and to learn, to love and to serve.

As our Nation faces the impact of the coronavirus, we pray for the health of our people. Bless and inspire our medical professionals, our public health officials, and researchers in their fight against the virus. We pray for those who have died and those who are sick.

Bless the people of this House, those elected and those who support their work. Give them Your discerning wisdom as they go about their labors. Bless them with courage and determination to do the hard work of justice-building and peacemaking. Gift them with a spirit of solidarity and understanding to collaborate across differences to serve the common good. And help them to always listen to the most vulnerable and voiceless in our land.

May every prayer and work of ours today begin from You, dear Lord, and through You be happily ended.

Amen.

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. STANTON 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND KEVIN F. O'BRIEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to note that Father Kevin O'Brien of the Society of Jesus was our guest this morning to deliver this morning's opening prayer for this House.

Father O'Brien joined our Silicon Valley community 4 years ago, and just last year he was named president of Santa Clara University. As an alum of Santa Clara University Law School myself, I am glad to see Father O'Brien focusing his presidency on college affordability and access, as well as fostering a culture of respect on campus.

Now a religious leader in Silicon Valley, Father O'Brien speaks of how disruption can lift people up instead of dividing people. Father O'Brien is dedicated to serving something larger than himself, which is a trait we deeply admire and value as Americans.

I am personally grateful to him for the leadership he has shown to standing up for Dreamers and those who are vulnerable in our community and across America.

It is my pleasure to welcome Father O'Brien to our Nation's Capital today and to thank him for his service to our community, our country, and to the University of Santa Clara.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

URGING THE SENATE TO ACT

(Ms. BROWNLEY of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, over 275 bipartisan bills are piled up on MITCH MCCONNELL's desk because he refuses to bring them to the Senate floor for a vote.

Three of those bills are my bills, each of which passed the House with over 400 votes from Democrats and Republicans alike.

H.R. 95, the Homeless Veterans Families Act, will keep veterans and their families together and off the streets in safe and adequate housing.

H.R. 840, the Veterans' Access to Child Care Act, will ensure veterans have access to childcare to attend critical medical appointments.

And H.R. 3224, the Deborah Sampson Act, aims to address the inequities and barriers that women veterans face when accessing VA care and benefits.

I urge Majority Leader MCCONNELL to allow the Senate to vote so our veterans will have the support and care they have earned and deserve.

□ 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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