

WE REPRESENT ALL OF AMERICA

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

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I came down this morning, after hearing Father Conroy give his opening speech, to address this House and to address this Nation today in these hallowed Halls to send the message that today is not a day to engage in partisan politics.

As a Republican, my hand is open to my fellow Americans, for us to come together, to stand with our Nation as we face this coronavirus crisis across the country.

Madam Speaker, the people of America are who we represent. They are not Democrat and Republican; they are American. Now is the time to lead with smart, targeted decisionmaking proposals that will improve their lives for the better.

God bless.

COMMUNICATION FROM SPECIAL ASSISTANT, THE HONORABLE HENRY CUELLAR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Ninamarie Andrews, Special Assistant, the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR, Member of Congress:

HENRY CUELLAR,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
March 10, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAME SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Ninamarie Andrews, have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of House Employment Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,
NINAMARIE ANDREWS,
Special Assistant,
Office of the 28th District of Texas.

COMMUNICATION FROM LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR/COUNSEL, THE HONORABLE HENRY CUELLAR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Travis Knight, Legislative Director/Counsel, the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR, Member of Congress:

HENRY CUELLAR,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
March 11, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAME SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Travis Knight, have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of House Employment Counsel, I have determined

that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,
TRAVIS KNIGHT,
Legislative Director / Counsel,
Offices of U.S. Congressman Henry Cuellar.

□ 0915

COVID-19 REQUIRES COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSE

(Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Madam Speaker, Miami-Dade County has its first two confirmed cases of COVID-19, and we are all very concerned. Across the country, events are canceled and store shelves are empty. With anxieties high, we are receiving mixed messages when what we need right now is coherent direction.

It is discouraging to see countries like South Korea respond much more effectively than we are. While they screen tens of thousands, we have sick patients and frustrated doctors who cannot access testing.

This is not right. We must make tests available and accessible to everyone. We must strengthen our healthcare system so we have the beds, the masks, the respirators, and the supplies to respond to a surge in cases. We must provide relief to our working families and local businesses struggling to cope with this virus.

Madam Speaker, I believe we have it within us to fulfill these needs, but we all must come together for a comprehensive response to meet this moment. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 16 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 0011

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BROWN of Maryland) at 12 o'clock and 11 minutes a.m.

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,
Washington, DC, March 13, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

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, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on March 13, 2020, at 5:28 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President on declaring a national emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk of the House.

DECLARING A NATIONAL EMERGENCY CONCERNING THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) OUTBREAK—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-108)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), I hereby report that I have exercised my authority to declare that the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the United States constitutes a national emergency. This declaration invokes section 1135 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 1320b-5, to allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to exercise the authority under that section to temporarily waive or modify certain requirements of the Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance programs and of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule throughout the duration of the public health emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

I am enclosing a copy of the proclamation I have issued.

DONALD J. TRUMP,
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 13, 2020.

FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6201) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6201

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Families First Coronavirus Response Act".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents is as follows: