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House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Compassionate God, thank You for giving us another day.

In an earlier national crisis, President Gerald Ford bound the Nation with these words: "My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over. Our Constitution works. Our great Republic is a government of laws and not of men. Here, the people rule. . . . Let brotherly love purge our hearts of suspicion and of hate."

Much earlier, President John Adams felt that Americans were engaged in the best cause that ever employed the human heart, but feared success was doubtful not for want of power or of wisdom, but of virtue. We are now engaged in a similar challenge in a new world emerging.

Inspire the men and women of Congress to bend their energies not to strengthen positions of privilege, but, to the extent possible, reduce privilege in favor of the common weal. For we are a Nation of laws, not men, and the responsibility of government is the benefit of all its citizens.

May each American rise to our shared effort to remind ourselves that we are all responsible for the greatness of our Nation and to make the sacrifices necessary to emerge better in virtue and stronger in national well-being. With Your grace, O Lord, may it be so.

And may everything done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 7(a) of House Resolution 891, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. BUTTERFIELD 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 laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of a letter received from Ms. Linda H. Lamone, Administrator, Maryland State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held April 28, 2020, the Honorable Kweisi Mfume was elected Representative to Congress for the Seventh Congressional District, State of Maryland.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS,
Annapolis, MD, April 30, 2020.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, for Representative in Congress from the 7th Congressional District of Maryland, show that Mr. Kweisi Mfume received 83,868 votes as of April 29, 2020 or 72.8% of votes of the number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Mr. Mfume was elected as Representative in Congress from the 7th Con-

gressional District of Maryland. To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by the Board of Canvassers, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Sincerely,

LINDA H. LAMONE,
State Administrator.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE KWEISI MFUME, OF MARYLAND, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Maryland, the Honorable Kweisi Mfume, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect Mfume and the members of the Maryland delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will raise his right hand.

Mr. MFUME appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 116th Congress.

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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