

Here in the Capitol, impel with Your spirit the Members of Congress who, more than any others, have the opportunity to address our Nation's needs. Give them the wisdom and courage to do so, working as a united force for good in these times. Lord, have mercy. May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SLOTKIN 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.

RESIGNATION AS PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENTARIAN,

Washington, DC, September 11, 2020.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I am writing to inform you of my retirement as Parliamentarian of the House, effective September 30, 2020. It has been a great honor to serve the House for more than 25 years. I am especially grateful for the privilege of working with a professional and inspiring team of colleagues.

In addition to the daily counsel provided in the chamber of this august body, our office's role in assisting the invaluable work of the House Democracy Partnership is a source of particular pride. The contributions of the HDP to legislative strengthening and democratic reform have made a lasting impact across the globe. The support provided by successive Speakers and the tireless work of Representative Price and the other members of the HDP are manifested in the remarkable strides witnessed in the now 21 partner countries.

I have been humbled to be part of the office's tradition of nonpartisan education and scholarship about the procedures and history of this House—the body closest to the people in our Federal government. From complying with the statutory requirement to publish the parliamentary precedents to hours spent in the Hall of the House with Members, students, and visitors, the office has been steadfast in our commitment to transparency in the “People's House.” This commitment is the bedrock of our democratic tradition.

Finally, I thank my wife and family for their love and support during my tenure.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS J. WICKHAM, Jr.

APPOINTMENT AS PARLIAMENTARIAN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. With great appreciation to our Parliamentarian, Thomas

J. Wickham, Jr., pursuant to section 287(a) of title 2, United States Code, the Chair appoints as Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives Jason A. Smith to succeed Thomas J. Wickham, resigned.

With congratulations to Jason Smith and thanks and gratitude to Thomas Wickham. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING JAMES BUTLER III

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

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to remember James Butler III of East Lansing, Michigan.

Lovingly known as the Godfather of Lansing, Mr. Butler lived a life of service that began when he was born into a Navy family in 1943.

His achievements speak for themselves. He was called to serve in the Army, finishing top of his class as a noncommissioned officer at Fort Benning. He served in Vietnam, earning two Purple Hearts and four Bronze Stars for heroism in combat.

However, if you really want to know who James Butler was, listen to the words he promised while serving: “If I make it back, I will give back.”

Well, he made it back, and he spent the next 30 years working at IBM, moving to Michigan and breaking barriers as the first Black man to hold an executive-level position at the company.

Even in retirement, Mr. Butler answered the call to serve, working under former Governor Granholm as the director of the Michigan Broadband Development Authority.

In short, Mr. Butler lived a life of giving back. For his work, he was recognized by too many organizations to list at this time.

But for those who knew him best, Rishan, his wife of 52 years, his three kids and seven grandkids, he was a good and kind man, and he will be dearly missed by all.

CONDEMN LAWLESSNESS AND STAND WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I cannot believe that this week, under the leadership of my colleagues on the Democrat side, under Speaker PELOSI, we are actually going to vote on a resolution condemning people for using the place of origin to distinguish this novel virus. We are going to use our time and the formal declaration of this great body to do that instead of condemning the lawlessness and the violence that is ravaging our once-great American cities.

I think that is unacceptable by all standards. I think we have plenty of opportunity to stand with our law enforcement officers who risk their lives, the law-abiding citizens who are having their rights trampled, and say no more.

I have the David Dorn Act and the Patrick Underwood Act. Both men died, being murdered in cold blood by these violent protesters. This would increase penalties and accountability for the folks who consider even thinking about doing that in the future.

We also have a resolution to condemn this lawlessness. I hope my colleagues can join me on that.

MARKING ADDICTION AND RECOVERY MONTH

(Mr. TRONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, one in seven people will experience addiction in their lifetime.

Last year, over 70,000 people died from a drug overdose. Over the last 3 years, it is over 200,000 people.

Addiction is a national crisis for which we will not find a vaccine.

Last week, I spoke with patients in recovery across western Maryland. The reality of COVID-19 is making recovery much harder.

Today, we are coming together in Congress as Team America for a day of action we are calling Congress Goes Purple.

Together, we are wearing purple to show our support for those in recovery. Together, we are raising awareness to combat the stigma around addiction. And together, we will do everything we can to support those in recovery.

Madam Speaker, to those in recovery, never be afraid to speak up and ask for help.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. WILLIAMS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

This year, an estimated 191,930 men in our Nation will be diagnosed with prostate cancer.

As a survivor of this disease, I know firsthand the challenges families face when they decide which testing, treatments, and coverage options are right for them.

That is why I proudly support legislation like the Preexisting Protections Act to ensure those with preexisting conditions have access to affordable care.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among American men, but the good news is that as innovation and technology continue to evolve, fewer men are dying after the diagnosis.