The House met at 5 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Bobby R. Patton, Jr., District of Columbia National Guard, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Most holy and merciful God, we come to You today in gratitude and celebration.

Beginning with the Army, our Nation’s military has stood for 246 years against all who sought to harm our democracy and citizens. Men and women from all backgrounds and all services demonstrated their dedication to our Nation by paying for our freedoms and safety with their tears, sweat, blood, and too often, lives.

God, we pray and are grateful, particularly for our National Guard soldiers and airmen who protected us in our Nation’s Capital. We could not have done our work without their service and the sacrifice of their families.

Grant us wisdom to remember that we share a common home, and give us courage so that our words and actions will reflect what is truly best for that common home, our great Nation.

Finally, we thank You for the ability and the capacity to serve the people of the United States.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Ms. LEE of California 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will take this occasion to update her announced policies of January 4, 2021, with respect to protocols in the Hall of the House related to the coronavirus pandemic.

Consistent with updated guidance from the Attending Physician, the Chair wishes to inform Members that masks are no longer required in the Hall of the House for Members and staff who have been fully vaccinated. All Members and staff who have not been fully vaccinated are required to wear masks, and the Chair would note that all Members and staff may continue to wear masks at their discretion.

This announcement is incorporated within the policy on conduct during a covered period of January 4, 2021, and supersedes all other announced policies that are in conflict. The Sergeant at Arms is directed to enforce mask requirements consistent with this announcement.

The Chair would also inform Members that, consistent with the Attending Physician’s updated guidance, the announced policies of January 4, 2021, and November 18, 2020, concerning group voting and Chamber capacity are no longer in effect.

The Chair appreciates the attention of Members to this matter and expects Members to continue to respect the health and safety of other Members and staff during this ongoing pandemic, including by following the guidance of the Attending Physician with respect to masks, social distancing, and other COVID-related health and safety protocols.

MOmENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF 600,000 AMERICANS WHO PASSED AWAY FROM THE COVID-19 VIRUS

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks all Members in the Chamber, as well as Members and staff throughout the Capitol, to rise for a moment of silence in remembrance of the 600,000 Americans who have passed away from the COVID–19 virus.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 256, REPEALING THE AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ RESOLUTION OF 2002; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1187, ESG DISCLOSURE SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 2021; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. McGovern, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 117–59) on the resolution (H. Res. 473) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 256) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1187) to provide for disclosure of additional material information about public companies and establish a Sustainable Finance Advisory Committee, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.
Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 256) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1187) to provide for disclosure of additional material information about public companies and establish a Sustainable Finance Advisory Committee, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117-5 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill. At any time after further amendment is ordered thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 3 of this resolution; (3) the amendments on bloc described in section 4 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. After debate pursuant to section 2 of this resolution, each further amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of an amendment pursuant to section 2 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, and may be debated for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent or simply some rhetorical exercise. This AUMF has been used over and over again to expand the mission and range of targets of U.S. military operations in Iraq never imagined when it was passed.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to re-examine the order printed in the report, may be of- fered only by a Member designated in the report, and may be debated for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent or simply some rhetorical exercise.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. LEE of North Carolina). Mr. MCGOVERN, the gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour. Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlemen from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection. Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, today, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, H.Res. 473, providing for consideration of H.R. 256, to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force against Iraq resolution of 2002, under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and one motion to recommit. The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 1187, the Corporate Governance Improvement and Investor Protection Act. This rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services, makes in order 10 amendments, provides for bloc authority to the chair of the Committee on Financial Services, and provides for one motion to recommit.

The rule provides that the provisions of section 202 of the National Emergencies Act shall not apply to H.J. Res. 46. The rule also deems passage of H. Res. 46. Finally, the rule provides the majority leader or his designee the ability to en bloc requested roll call votes on suspension bills considered on June 14 or June 15. This authority lasts through June 17.

Madam Speaker, there are two critically important measures contained in this rule. H.R. 1187 will build on landmark reforms like the Dodd-Frank Act and Sarbanes-Oxley Act. It will help hold corporations accountable, help investors make informed decisions, and build a more sustainable and equitable economic recovery. These improvements are badly needed, especially at a time when we are seeing a new era of sustainable investors.

I want to discuss one bill in particular here today, Madam Speaker, a bill that was authored by the distinguished Chair, Congresswoman BARRA LEE from California, because this Congress is doing something extraordinary.

Nearly 20 years after we passed a measure to address the overthrow of Saddam Hussein and 10 years after the conflict in Iraq officially ended, we are reasserting our constitutional responsibility over matters of war and peace by finally repealing the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force. This isn’t an arcane legislative maneuver or simply some rhetorical exercise. This AUMF has been used over and over again to expand the mission and range of targets of U.S. military operations in never imagined when it was passed.

In fact, President Trump misused it as recently as last January to justify the strike that killed Iranian General Qasem Soleimani. The impacts of that decision dramatically escalated tensions between the United States and Iran and throughout the region, tensions that persist to this very day.

Madam Speaker, the process that we are starting here today with H.R. 256 provides a roadmap for Congress to get off the sidelines and to stop abdicating its constitutional responsibility to debate matters of war and peace. That is what our Founders intended. They knew that decisions of such magnitude should not be made in a vacuum solely by a President. That is why the Constitution makes the President Commander in Chief but gives only Congress the power to declare war.

It is no secret that for a long time there were Members on both sides of the aisle who preferred to skirt that responsibility. They left such consequential decisions to whoever sat at 1600