



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2017

No. 191

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
November 24, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ALEXANDER X. MOONEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

Reverend Peter Daly, Archdiocese of Washington, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

God of wisdom, help us to know Your will.

God of justice, help us to do what is right.

God of mercy, help us to be merciful.

God of nature, help us to respect the world You have made.

God of nations, help us to live in peace with each other.

God of goodness, help us to be virtuous.

God of peace, help us to find common ground so we might be peacemakers.

God of love, help us to love one another despite our differences and disagreements.

Inspire within us actions guided by truth, words formed in love, policies dedicated to the common good.

May people of every religion, race, and tongue find a home among us and may Your grace guide us always.

We ask this in the name of the almighty God who has created us all.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution

619, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(b) of House Resolution 619, the House stands adjourned until noon on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 2 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, November 28, 2017, at noon for morning-hour debate.

### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3215. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a request for additional fiscal year 2018 funding and the necessary authorities to address ongoing recovery efforts due to the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season (H. Doc. No. 115—80); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

3216. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq that was declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3217. A letter from the Director, Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 17-59, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

3218. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Indiana Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Plan [SATS No.: IN-164-FOR; Docket ID: OSM-2016-0004; S1D1S SS08011000 SX064A000 178S180110; S2D2S SS08011000 SX064A000 17XS501520] received November 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3219. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Kentucky Regulatory Program [KY-254-FOR; OSM-2011-0005; S1D1SS08011000SX064A000189S180110; S2D2SS08011000SX066A00018XS501520] received November 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

3220. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Texas Regulatory Program [SATS No.: TX-067-FOR; Docket ID: OSM-2016-0001; S1D1S SS08011000 SX064A000 189S180110; S2D2S SS08011000 SX064A000 18XS501520] received November 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 1178: Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 3197: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. BEYER, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. SOTO.

□ 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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H.R. 3409: Mr. COHEN.  
H.R. 3798: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.  
H.R. 4207: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 4240: Mr. AGUILAR and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.  
H. Con. Res. 60: Mr. SARBANES.  
H.R. 4340: Mr. BARLETTA.



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## Senate

The Senate met at 11 and 1 second a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LUTHER STRANGE, a Senator from the State of Alabama.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The senior assistant parliamentarian read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, November 24, 2017.

*To the Senate:*

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LUTHER STRANGE, a Senator from the State of Alabama, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,  
*President pro tempore.*

Mr. STRANGE thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,  
NOVEMBER 27, 2017, AT 4 P.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 4 p.m. on Monday, November 27, 2017.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 11 and 33 seconds a.m., adjourned until Monday, November 27, 2017, at 4 p.m.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 16, 2017*

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 1, the so-called Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. This egregious bill would penalize families for having multiple children, reduce incentives for affordable housing units, hurt the sick by eliminating the medical expense deduction, harm commuters by limiting the benefit of the transit tax credit to employers, and harm New York in particular by limiting the state and local tax deduction, which helps New York provide valuable benefits to people of all income levels.

Most importantly, this bill would add \$1.5 trillion to our national debt, essentially paying for tax cuts to America's wealthiest citizens today on the backs of our children tomorrow. This bill exposes the moral bankruptcy of the Republican agenda and I hope the American people will remember these actions in the future.

I ask all of my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

OPPOSITION TO H.R. 2874

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 24, 2017*

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2874, the 21st

Century Flood Reform Act. At a time when oceans are rising due to climate change, this Chamber wants to hike up the cost of flood insurance premiums on lower- and middle-income Americans. As if that were not enough, this bill would also exempt corporations from the requirement to buy into the system, thereby limiting the availability of flood insurance in numerous markets.

As the representative of Gerritsen Beach and other areas that were hit hard by Superstorm Sandy, I know the importance of ensuring that all Americans have access to quality flood insurance. While we need to ensure that our insurance programs remain solvent, we must do so in a manner that protects the most vulnerable among us. This is not the way and I urge my colleagues to vote no.

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# Daily Digest

## Senate

### *Chamber Action*

The Senate met at 11:00:01 a.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 11:00:33 a.m. until 4 p.m., on Monday, November 27, 2017.

### *Committee Meetings*

No committee meetings were held.

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## House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** There were no public bills or resolutions introduced in today's Record.

**Additional Cosponsors:** Page H9435-36

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Mooney (WV) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. Page H9435

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rev. Peter Daly, Archdiocese of Washington, Washington, DC. Page H9435

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

### *Committee Meetings*

No hearings were held.

### *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2017

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House

No hearings are scheduled.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*  
4 p.m., Monday, November 27

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*  
12 noon, Tuesday, November 28

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Senate Chamber

**Program for Monday:** Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Dabney Langhorne Friedrich, of California, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, with a vote on confirmation of the nomination at 5:30 p.m. Following disposition of the nomination of Dabney Langhorne Friedrich, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Gregory G. Katsas, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

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House Chamber

**Program for Tuesday:** To be announced.

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Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Clarke, Yvette D., N.Y., E1597, E1597



## Congressional Record

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