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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. We also give You thanks that You have given to us the goals of justice and the designs of freedom and that these are our heritage as Americans.

Bless the Members of the people's House with the understanding that it is their work to develop the strategies and the plans for achieving those goals and the trust to know that Your spirit is with them in their work.

Grace this assembly with the resolve to be faithful in its tasks, responsible in its actions, and fervent in its desire to serve a nation which so many hope will live beyond the current difficulties into an ever greater realization of both justice and freedom.

May all that is done today be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 2(a) of House Resolution 694, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WENSTRUP 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 entertain up to 20 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

THE MEMO SHOULD BE RELEASED

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Members have been given access to a top secret memo by the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence regarding the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. The memo is disturbing.

Mr. Speaker, for years I have worked to rein in FISA's abuse of Americans' constitutional rights. The memo, along with supporting evidence from other government agencies, should immediately be declassified. Despite the shutdown, the process to release this document to the American public and the media has begun.

There is also an overclassification of documents by government. They have nothing to do with national security. The American people and the media must see what our government is doing in secret without America's knowledge.

The memo is proof that government cannot be trusted. In the words of Thomas Jefferson, "Educate and inform the whole mass of people. . . . They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."

Mr. Speaker, the memo shows this is not the America our forefathers envisioned.

And that is just the way it is.

DAY THREE OF THE SHUTDOWN

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, day three of this shutdown, thousands and thousands of Federal employees not working. The leader of the Republicans in the Senate has moved with some offer that would hopefully be something to start with, but I applaud the Democratic leadership in the other body because they have been focusing on what we want, and that is parity, national security parity for children's healthcare and federally qualified health clinics and veterans.

But the people who have imploded this, of course, are the President and his staff, with vulgarity and then breaking up a deal last Friday.

So, if we are serious, we need to be able to work on what the issues are, and that is domestic spending to have parity to ensure that the families of our soldiers are, likewise, provided for.

I support the national security needs of this Nation, as a Homeland Security member since the tragic and heinous terrorist act of 9/11. I believe national security goes with providing for their families. When are we going to do that and provide for innocent DREAMers who have done nothing but come to this country to be able to do what is right?

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 4872, the End the Shutdown Act of 2018, a continuing resolution that would immediately open and reopen the government with a clean CR while negotiations continue on a budget agreement that adheres to the parity and on other critical issues so that we can end the Trump shutdown.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BYRNE). A unanimous consent request for the consideration of that measure would have to receive clearance by the majority and minority floor and committee leaderships. The Chair is unaware of such clearance; therefore, the Chair cannot entertain that request at this time.

DEMOCRATS ARE VOTING AGAINST CHIP

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this 3-day Senate Democratic government shutdown is wrong,

□ 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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