

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LAMALFA 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER

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

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on an urgent matter confronting our country.

The American people are experiencing the worst series of self-inflicted crises in a generation.

Inflation is at a 40-year high. Gas is up 42 percent. Utilities are up 20 percent.

Either President Biden doesn't care or is being insulated from reality.

We saw the worst jobs report of the Presidency this last month. Self-induced labor shortages are plaguing businesses. Shelves are bare. Container ships are stacking up.

We have the worst Biden-created border crisis in 30 years, yet the President has time to go to Delaware every weekend but not the border?

Hundreds of Americans are still in Afghanistan, meanwhile President Biden and Democrats are trying to ram through trillions in new tax hikes.

So what is the administration working on? What are their priorities? A national gender strategy. Are you kidding me? This administration cares more about which pronoun you use than countering the Chinese threat or the threat at our southern border.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better than this. My constituents deserve better than this. Our Nation deserves better than this.

RECOGNIZING PEAK FARMS

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, once again this year, a local farm in North Caro-

lina's Fifth District has been selected to provide the White House Christmas tree.

Rusty and Beau Estes, the owners of Peak Farms in Ashe County, are no strangers to this prestigious selection process.

In both 2008 and 2012, Peak Farms provided Fraser firs to the White House, and in 2018, the farm was selected to deliver the Christmas tree to the residence of Vice President Mike Pence.

Mr. Speaker, this is a terrific accomplishment, and it represents the best that North Carolina has to offer.

Congratulations to both Rusty and Beau. Mr. Speaker, yet again, Rusty and Beau have proven that North Carolina's Fifth District is the premier provider of Christmas trees throughout the country.

RECOGNIZING THE DEPARTURE OF RILEY SCOTT

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with bittersweet sentiments.

I recognize the departure of my legislative assistant, Riley Scott, of Petaluma, California, to an amazing, new adventure.

Riley has been, in addition to her strong work in my office for 2 years, a lifetime swimmer and received a full ride out of high school to USC where she won several PAC-12 championships and competed at the top level in the NCAA's.

I point out this impressive record because Riley's new opportunity will be competing to represent our country in the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Riley will be training for the women's pentathlon, which consists of, of course, swimming, horsemanship, a combination of running, pistol shooting, and fencing.

Now, I told Riley that there is a lot of fencing around our ranch that needed to be repaired, but she said that wasn't the same thing.

I told Riley early on if she ever had this type of opportunity post college, she had to go out and take that chance and do it, and so she is.

It is a loss for our office and here in Congress, but watch as Riley goes for the gold as Californians are known to do.

Fight on to victory, Riley Coyote.

AMERICA'S ENERGY SECURITY IS IN JEOPARDY

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, President Biden's radical policies have stymied America's energy independence and created a crisis, unfortunately.

The national average price for a gallon of gas has climbed to its highest

level since 2014 and is 66 percent higher than it was last year.

On day one, President Biden destroyed 11,000 American jobs by canceling the Keystone Pipeline.

President Biden paused new domestic oil and gas leases, which will cost one million American jobs and decrease the GDP by \$700 billion.

Instead of allowing American companies to increase domestic production and hire more U.S. workers, President Biden and his administration has pleaded with OPEC and Russia to increase global output to ease rising fuel prices.

Democrats in Congress are pushing a multitrillion-dollar spending package, which includes a tax hike on fuel.

These actions jeopardize our Nation's energy security and will increase costs for all American families, unfortunately.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCNERNEY) at 5 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on the postponed questions at a later time.

SOVEREIGN DEBT CONTRACT CAPACITY ACT

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4111) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to direct the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to advocate that the Fund provide technical assistance to Fund members seeking to enhance their capacity to evaluate the legal and financial terms of sovereign debt contracts, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4111

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Sovereign Debt Contract Capacity Act".