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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 17, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

ADVANCE TO IMPEACHMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, a proud American. But I am especially proud, Mr. Speaker, of this House of Representatives because, yesterday, this House engaged in the first part of a bipartisan—bipartisan—effort.

It was bipartisan yesterday, but it is a bifurcated effort as well. Bifurcated because, yesterday, this House voted with a vote of 244 to condemn the

President. Yesterday's vote was to condemn, the first part of the bifurcated process. Today's vote is to determine whether or not we will punish the President.

The effort yesterday was wonderful. I supported it. But it does not punish the President. It does not fine him. He will remain in office.

Today, we will deal with the question of what his punishment should be. Today, between 4 and 5, somewhere in there, there will be Articles of Impeachment voted on. This will be the opportunity for us to go on record letting the world know where we stand.

If we vote to table, we are voting not to advance impeachment. If we vote to send it to the Committee on the Judiciary, we are voting not to advance impeachment.

I will not vote to table. I will not vote to send it to the Committee on the Judiciary. I will want to move forward so that we can move to vote to impeach.

This President has committed impeachable offenses. Yesterday, we condemned him for them. Today is our opportunity to punish him for them.

And for those who might say, "Well, if you do this, there may be some people who won't like you," well, there are times when you have to do that which is neither safe nor politic nor popular. You have to do it because it is right.

But I would also say this: If we voted yesterday to condemn him, those who are not going to like you are not going to like you any more today when you vote to impeach than they will if you vote not to impeach. They are still going to be where they were when you decided that you were not going to support what the President has been doing since he has been in office.

Finally this, Mr. Speaker. I love my country. It means something to me to be a part of the fiber and fabric of this country. And because I love it, I will not allow anyone to be above the law.

The President has been above the law some 91 days since the Mueller report was presented—some 91 days. I think that it is time for us to send the President a clear message that he is not above the law. I think it is time for us to impeach.

I also believe that this, and understand, what we are doing today with impeachment, does not impact the Mueller report. It does not impact what the Committee on the Judiciary is doing or any other committee investigating obstruction. Obstruction has nothing to do with what we will vote on today. This is about what the President has done.

You cannot incite people to harm other people with your words. You can't yell, "Fire," in a crowded theater.

The President has committed an impeachable offense, and we ought to take it up. He ought to be impeached.

I will vote to advance to impeachment, and I pray that this President will be impeached today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

IMMIGRATION CRISIS REQUIRES IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, our country is seeing unprecedented numbers of illegal aliens attempting to circumvent U.S. immigration and asylum laws at our southern border.

The Department of Homeland Security reported that 104,344 arrests occurred last month, making 4 straight months of arrests totaling over 100,000. That is the equivalent to the entire population of Watauga County in

□ 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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