The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by The Reverend Kerry R. Mansir, Rector, Christ Episcopal Church, Gardiner.

National Anthem by Evelyn LaCroix, Skowhegan.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Connie Adler, M.D., Chesterville.

The Journal of Tuesday, January 21, 2020 was read and approved.

SENATE PAPERS
The following Joint Resolution: (S.P. 722)

JOINT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENTIMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE INTERESTS OF STUDENTS ARE PARAMOUNT IN ALL LEGISLATION AFFECTING PUBLIC EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the writers of the Constitution of Maine recognized that all students should have access to public education and that this education is essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people; and

WHEREAS, equity of opportunity for all students to learn, regardless of where they live in the State, has never been more important as we face workforce challenges in heritage industries and the burgeoning technology sector, as well as in future job sectors as yet unknown; and

WHEREAS, our economic future is at risk if we fail to educate all students to their full potential, and our democratic system can thrive only if our young people are taught about the importance of civic engagement and civil interaction; and

WHEREAS, our students of today will be responsible for developing the strategies to mitigate climate change and protect our great natural resources, including the clean air, water and forested land that drive our economy and define our way of life; and

WHEREAS, our 3,478 miles of coastline have supported generations of men, women and children who are proud of their saltwater heritage and who will through education find new and sustainable ways to make their living on the sea; and

WHEREAS, our forests and farms have also supported generations of men, women and children who will through education find new and sustainable ways to continue farming and making their living from the woods; and

WHEREAS, our State’s proud heritage as a home for painters, writers, musicians and crafters will be carried on by our aspiring artists who are students in public schools today; and

WHEREAS, our next generation of educators are students in our State’s classrooms today; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to support putting the interests of students first in all legislation we vote on that is related to public education. Came from the Senate, READ and ADOPTED. READ and ADOPTED in concurrence.
Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
S/Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 285)
STATE OF MAINE
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE
January 17, 2020
The Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Clerk Hunt:
Pursuant to our authority under Title 22, §272, we are pleased to appoint Edward Miller to seat number 8 on the Tobacco Prevention and Control Advisory Council, effective the date of this letter. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,
S/Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
S/Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 286)
STATE OF MAINE
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE
January 17, 2020
The Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Clerk Hunt:
Pursuant to our authority under Title 22, §272, we are pleased to appoint Deborah Deatrick to seat number 9 on the Tobacco Prevention and Control Advisory Council, effective the date of this letter. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,
S/Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
S/Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 288)
THE MAINE SENATE
129TH LEGISLATURE
3 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
January 22, 2020
Honorable Rob Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Clerk Hunt:
Pursuant to my authority under Senate Rule 201.3, I have appointed Senator James Hamper to the Government Oversight Committee. With this appointment, he will be replacing Senator Paul Davis, effective the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
S/Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.
The Following Communication: (H.C. 282)
FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE
94 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04332
January 30, 2020
Honorable Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Speaker Gideon and President Jackson:
Pursuant to 5 MRSA §12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Finance Authority of Maine due February 1, 2020.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
S/Bruce Wagner
Chief Executive Officer

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

—__________________________—

The Following Communication: (H.C. 283)
MIDCOAST REGIONAL REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
January 16, 2020
The Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
The Honorable Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear President Jackson and Speaker Gideon:
Pursuant to 5 MRSA §12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

MRRA was created in 2006 by the Maine Legislature (5 MRSA §13083-G) as a municipal corporation charged with the responsibility to implement the reuse master plans for Naval Air Station Brunswick (NAS Brunswick) and the Topsham Annex, which closed as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you.
Sincerely,
S/Jeffrey K. Jordan
Deputy Director

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

—__________________________—

The Following Communication: (H.C. 287)
STATE OF MAINE
CLERK’S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002
January 23, 2020
Honorable Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Speaker Gideon:
Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the following Joint Standing Committees have voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass:"

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
L.D. 569 Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Submit to the United States Secretary of Agriculture a Plan for Continued Implementation of the Maine Industrial Hemp Program (EMERGENCY)
Environment and Natural Resources
L.D. 1786 An Act To Update Maine's Sales Prohibition on Upholstered Furniture Treated with Flame-retardant Chemicals
L.D. 1823 An Act To Allow a Float Haul-out or Marine Way within Shoreland Zone Setbacks

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of House

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

—__________________________—

The Following Communication: (S.C. 822)
MAINE SENATE
129th LEGISLATURE
January 21, 2020
Honorable Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0002
Dear Speaker Gideon:
In accordance with 3 MRSA §158 and Joint Rule 506 of the 129th Maine Legislature, please be advised that the Senate today confirmed the following nomination:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, Anne E. Roosevelt of Embden for appointment to the Maine Community College System, Board of Trustees.

Best Regards,
S/Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

—__________________________—

At this point, the Speaker recognized the Representative from Hampden, Representative Haggan and he was added to the roll call of the Second Regular Session of the 129th legislature.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Provide Program Solvency, Clarity, Consistency and Flexibility in Routine Public Health Licensing Activities" (H.P. 1465) (L.D. 2063)
Sponsored by Representative HYMANSON of York.
Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 203.
Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES suggested and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.
Bill "An Act To Address Decibel Level Limits for Airboats" (H.P. 1467) (L.D. 2065) Sponsored by Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.
Committee on INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE suggested and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Local Bridges" (H.P. 1466) (L.D. 2064)
Sponsored by Representative McLEAN of Gorham.
Submitted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.
Bill "An Act To Authorize the Maine Pilotage Commission To Establish Alternative Initial License Criteria for Existing Pilots Seeking Endorsements for Low Traffic Volume Routes" (H.P. 1468) (L.D. 2066)
Sponsored by Representative McLEAN of Gorham.
Submitted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.
Committee on TRANSPORTATION suggested and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on TRANSPORTATION and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Pursuant to Statute
Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control
Representative HICKMAN for the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 26: Standards for Indoor Pesticide Applications and Notification for All Occupied Buildings Except K-12 Schools, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1471) (L.D. 2070)
Be REFERRED to the Committee on AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.
Report was READ and ACCEPTED and the Resolve REFERRED to the Committee on AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.
Sent for concurrence.

Under suspension of the rules, members were allowed to remove their jackets.

Pursuant to Statute
Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Representative WARREN for the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 4: Water-based Fire Protection Systems, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1474) (L.D. 2073)
Be REFERRED to the Committee on CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.
Report was READ and ACCEPTED and the Resolve REFERRED to the Committee on CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.
Sent for concurrence.

Pursuant to Statute
Department of Education
Representative KORNFIELD for the Department of Education pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 125: Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1472) (L.D. 2071)
Be REFERRED to the Committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.
Report was READ and ACCEPTED and the Resolve REFERRED to the Committee on EDUCATION AND
CULTURAL AFFAIRS and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

Pursuant to Statute Department of Education
Representative KORNFIELD for the Department of Education pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1473) (L.D. 2072)

Be REFERRED to the Committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Report was READ and ACCEPTED and the Resolve REFERRED to the Committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

Pursuant to Statute Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Representative HYMANSON for the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 15: Death with Dignity Act Reporting Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1469) (L.D. 2068)

Be REFERRED to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Report was READ and ACCEPTED and the Resolve REFERRED to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH.

ORDERS
On motion of Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland, the following House Order: (H.O. 40)

ORDERED, that Representative Victoria Foley of Biddeford be excused January 8 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative David G. Haggan of Hampden be excused January 14 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Andrew J. McLean of Gorham be excused January 8 and 14 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Teresa S. Pierce of Falmouth be excused January 8 and 14 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Roger E. Reed of Carmel be excused January 14 for health reasons.

READ and PASSED.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR
In accordance with House Rule 519 and Joint Rule 213, the following items:

Recognizing:
Brent Colbry, of Etna, who is retiring as superintendent of School Administrative District 54 after more than 45 years of service as an educator, the past 17 years in Skowhegan schools. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(P HLS 785)
Presented by Representative AUSTIN of Skowhegan.
Cosponsored by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot, Representative COSTAIN of Plymouth, Representative REED of Carmel.

On OBJECTION of Representative AUSTIN of Skowhegan, was REMOVED from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.
The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Skowhegan, Representative Austin.

Representative AUSTIN: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I'd be remiss if I didn't speak about Mr. Colbry since he spent 17 years in Skowhegan. During that time, he didn't live in Skowhegan, doesn't now, and so he drives a long distance every day to come to Skowhegan and take care of the education of our students. He could've retired a few years ago but instead decided to stay there and help Skowhegan through some very difficult times, and he's been right there, a quiet man but yet getting work done. And he's always cared about their education and we always looked forward to him in each town in our district to see him coming by in late spring/early summer with a budget for that school year, which was never a pleasant thing for him, I'm sure. But he was always there to give us answers and take care, as I said, of the education. Thank you.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was PASSED and sent for concurrence.

In Memory of:
the Honorable Galen Cole, of Bangor. Mr. Cole was a World War II veteran of the United States Army and a recipient of the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. He worked 50 years for Cole's Express, including decades as president, growing the company into a regional carrier serving Maine, northern New England and the Canadian Maritimes. Very involved in civic and public life, he served on the Bangor City Council and as Mayor of Bangor and 24 years on the University of Maine Development Council, including several years as its president. He founded the Galen Cole Family Land Transportation Museum in Bangor, which has been visited by more than half a million people from all 50 states, every Canadian province and dozens of foreign countries. He was a lifelong champion for Maine's veterans, serving as President of the 5th Armored Division Association, and particularly through his walking stick recognition program. The Military Order of the Purple Heart selected him for its National Americanism Award, the 101st Air Refueling Wing gave him its Distinguished Service Award and the Maine American Legion named him Citizen of the Year and later presented him with the Distinguished Service Award. He
In Memory of:

Roger Dalton, of Phippsburg. Mr. Dalton was a veteran of the United States Army. For 25 years, he worked as a barber, and he also worked as a diet aide and head cook at a nursing home for 20 years. A drummer, he performed with many bands and especially enjoyed country music. Mr. Dalton will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family and friends and all those whose lives he touched;

Presented by Representative PAULHUS of Bath.
Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representative HEPLER of Woolwich.

On OBJECTION of Representative PAULHUS of Bath, was REMOVED from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bath, Representative Paulhus.

Representative PAULHUS: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I just wanted to stand to say a few words.

Roger was my wife's grandfather and so was a member of our family. He will be greatly missed. As in the sentiment, it mentioned that he was a veteran and a barber for 25 years and worked at Winship Green Nursing Home alongside his wife of over 50 years and together they raised eight children. And his wife, Marsha, who is a great woman, and Roger had such a connection together and it was great to see them, especially in these later years when Roger's mobility was not as great but Marsha was always next to him and always helping him. So, I know on behalf of the family, we will miss Roger, but he will never be forgotten. He touched so many lives and helped people and so, he's a great example for all of us and for the family. And so on behalf of the family, you know, we thank you and we will be remembering him later on this week, so, thank you.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was ADOPTED and sent for concurrence.

In Memory of:

Leigh Michelle Thurlow, of Lowell. Ms. Thurlow worked as a video editor at WLBD in Bangor and, for many years, as the Multi-Media Instructor at Northern Penobscot Tech Region III in Lincoln, where she brought many opportunities into the program, such as the "Pet of the Week" videos at the Humane Society, and continuously updated technologies for video production, photography, coding and graphic design for the benefit of her students. She was proud of her students and their successes. Ms. Thurlow will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;

Presented by Representative JAVNER of Chester.
Cosponsored by Senator ROSEN of Hancock, Representative HANINGTON of Lincoln.

On OBJECTION of Representative JAVNER of Chester, was REMOVED from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Chester, Representative Javner.

Representative JAVNER: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. When you live in rural Maine, every birth is celebrated and every loss mourned deeply. In August, right before the beginning of a new school year, our district lost a beautiful soul. Leigh Thurlow, the

H-1192
multimedia instructor at Region 3 since 2006 and resident of Lowell, left us way too soon. She was only 39 years old.

As a new legislator, the learning curve is steep and one of the questions that I received often from my constituents early on was where do I find information on this bill or that bill? And I quickly learned that there was no easy way to describe that to them. I thought to myself in this day and age of YouTube tutorials, there must be one. Well, there wasn’t. So, I went to Ms. Thurlow and I asked if it would be possible for her and her class to put one together for me, and they did so. And I was so excited with their finished product.

She touched my life acutely with her calming demeanor. I understand why her students adored her, why teachers respected her, and ultimately, why she will be mourned deeply by us all. She was truly a shining example of a life well lived.

I understand why her students adored her, why teachers respected her, and ultimately, why she will be mourned deeply by us all. She was truly a shining example of a life well lived.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lincoln, Representative Hanington.

Representative HANINGTON: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I, too, express the same condolences that my good friend, Representative Javner. Region 3 is so successful because of the teachers that we have and those that know Ms. Thurlow and the Thurlow family are going to be sadly missed and I’d just like to wish my condolences to the family. Thank you.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was ADOPTED and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH.

ENACTORS
Acts
An Act Regarding the Presumption of Abandonment of Gift Obligations
(H.P. 1164) (L.D. 1612)
(H. "A" H-661)

Reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, PASSED TO BE ENACTED, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
The following matters, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment, have preference in the Orders of the Days and continue with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

An Act To Limit the Dissemination of Juvenile Records
(H.P. 1197) (L.D. 1670)
(C. "A" H-594)

TABLED - January 14, 2020 (Till Later Today) by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

PENDING - Motion of same Representative to SUSPEND THE RULES for the purpose of RECONSIDERATION.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative MOONEN of Portland, the Bill and all accompanying papers were COMMITTED to the Committee on JUDICIARY in NON-CONCURRENCE and sent for concurrence.

Resolve, To Create the Frequent Users System Engagement Collaborative
(H.P. 1460) (L.D. 2056)
(Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES suggested)
TABLED - January 21, 2020 (Till Later Today) by Representative HYMANSON of York.

PENDING - REFERENCE.

Subsequently, the Resolve was REFERRED to the Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE MAINE COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE UNDERCOUNT OF MAINE RESIDENTS IN THE 2020 FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS
(H.P. 1448)
TABLED - January 21, 2020 (Till Later Today) by Representative CARNEY of Cape Elizabeth.

PENDING - ADOPTION.

Representative DILLINGHAM of Oxford REQUESTED a roll call on ADOPTION.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Adoption of the Joint Resolution. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 342

NAY - DeVeaux, Lockman.


Yes, 134; No, 2; Absent, 13; Excused, 0.

134 having voted in the affirmative and 2 voted in the negative, with 13 being absent, and accordingly the Joint Resolution was ADOPTED and sent for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH.
SENATE PAPERS
The following Joint Order:  (S.P. 735)
ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate
and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, January 28,
2020 at 10:00 in the Morning.
Came from the Senate, READ and PASSED.
READ and PASSED in concurrence.

SENATE PAPERS
Bill "An Act To Authorize the Automatic Continuation
of Absentee Voter Status until the Termination of That Status"
(S.P. 736)  (L.D. 2067)
Came from the Senate, REFERRED to the Committee on
VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on VETERANS AND
LEGAL AFFAIRS in concurrence.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted
upon were ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH.

The SPEAKER:  The Chair recognizes the
Representative from York, Representative Hymanson.
Representative HYMANSON:  Thank you, Madam
Speaker.  I wish to speak on the record.

The SPEAKER:  The Representative from York,
Representative Hymanson, has requested unanimous consent
to speak on the record.  Hearing no objection, the
Representative may proceed on the record.

Representative HYMANSON:  Thank you.  Today is
Auschwitz Liberation Day.  I wanted to speak about it because
it's important to speak about it.  World War II, it opened in
1940, was the largest Nazi concentration and death camp, it
was in Southern Poland.  It closed in January 1945 with Soviet
liberation.  That was 12 years before I was born, which to me
sounds like a pretty close approximation to my history, which
makes me take a breath.

1.1 million people were killed at Auschwitz, one million
Jews, either by the gas chambers or through forced labor.
Tattoos on the arms were only given at Auschwitz and only for
those selected for forced labor.  If you were put into the gas
chamber, you didn't get a tattoo.  I saw some of these tattoos
through my life, one of them when I was a phlebotomist in the
early morning when I was in medical school, and the woman I
woke up stuck out her arm and the arm I was going to draw
blood had a tattoo on it.  It was shocking to me and something
that I still think about and nearly brings me to tears.

This summer, I was in Israel and I visited Yad Vashem,
which is the Holocaust Remembrance Center in Israel.  Six
million people died in the Holocaust.  Yad Vashem is collecting
the names of some of those six million who died.  They have
4.2 million names now, which is remarkable, and walking into
that central round library in Yad Vashem is really awe-inspiring
to see books and books and books filled with 4.2 million
names.  So I wanted to speak this about my personal
experience and the global effect as we remember Auschwitz
Liberation Day. Thank you, Madam Speaker.