March 7, 2025

# America is back!

The Presidential Joint Address to Congress

President Trump's speech was dedicated to the American people. It was joyful and forward looking. He reminded each of us that the American dream is unstoppable, that the momentum is back, pride is back and America is back. But he also told us that we need to be patient because it will take time to rebuild what the prior administration destroyed. This speech was the longest, most boisterous and, yes, most partisan speech given by a President of the United States in many years. It was also a very powerful one, and just may have been President Trump's best speech ever.

#### **Highlighting Accomplishments**

President Trump stated that his administration has accomplished more in 43 days than most have achieved in four or even eight years, and they are just beginning. Some of his plans include:

- Stamping out government overspending, fraud and mismanagement;
- Securing the border;
- Ending Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and, instead, hiring to be based on skill, experience and competence;
- Bringing back free speech;
- Protecting Title IX by keeping men out of women's sports;
- Ending taxes on tips, overtime and Social Security;
- Previewing how tariff plans will lead to an economic "boom" for Americans:
- Ending Critical Race Theory;
- Announcing that the top terrorist suspect involved in the 2021 Abbey Gate attack in Afghanistan that killed 13 U.S. service members has been apprehended and is headed to the United States;
- Announcing Ukraine's president said he is now ready to end the war and come to the negotiating table as soon as possible to bring lasting peace closer;
- Asking Congress to pass legislation requiring a mandatory death penalty for police killers;
- Urging Congress to pass tax cuts for everyone;
- Working to balance the federal budget; and,
- Fighting to reverse inflation.

### **Honoring Every Day Americans**

Throughout his address, President Trump tried to bring the country together with stories about ordinary Americans. But the Democrats sat on their hands. They didn't stand and applaud:

- The mother of Laken Riley as the President announced the Laken Riley Act;
- The mother of Jocelyn Nungaray as the President announced a Wildlife Refuge named in her name;
- The wife of a slain police officer, or the family of firefighter Corey Comperatore, who gave his life protecting his family as shots rang out during the Butler, PA rally;
- D.J. Daniel, a child cancer survivor who wants to be a policeman, and that evening became an honorary member of the U.S. Secret Service;
- A young man who learned that his dream to attend West Point became a reality;
- Marc Fogel, a teacher who was imprisoned in Russia, and his mother who asked Trump to help bring her son home; and,
- Payton McNabb, a former high school volleyball player, who was hit in the head by a transgender athlete, who spiked the ball. It hit McNabb in her head, causing a brain bleed, a concussion and a neck injury, as well as ending her athletic career.

#### **Democrats Protest**

But for the Democrats, it was a very bad evening that began prior to the President's address.

# Operation Wildfire: Good Things Happen When YOU Vote

Earlier in the day, Minority Leader U.S. Representative Hakeem Jeffries told members of the House Democrat Caucus to be on their best behavior, not to protest, not to draw attention away from President Trump. But they didn't listen. They made themselves the story. They heckled, they had signs and they walked out. One wonders to whom House Democrats are listening?

Many of the Democrat Congresswomen wore pink in a display of defiance against the President. "Pink is a color of power and protest," U.S. Rep. Teresa Fernandez told *Time* magazine. ",,, this man and the Republican agenda is devastating for America's women." (Remember, only two Democrats in the House joined Republicans to pass legislation to keep men out of women's sports, and every Democrat in the Senate voted against and blocked the House-passed bill.)

It's a tradition that representatives from both parties, usually members of the leadership, escort the President into the House Chamber. This time, the Democrats didn't show up, perhaps to demonstrate their resistance to this President. But it didn't end there.

Throughout the President's address, Democrat antics were so disrespectful that President Trump remarked, "This is my fifth such speech to Congress, and once again I look at the Democrats in front of me and I realize there is absolutely nothing I can say to make them happy or to make them stand or smile or applaud. Nothing I can do." Despite that, he still implored Democrats to work together with Republicans to help their fellow Americans and make our nation strong again.

#### The Democrat Response to the Joint Address

Struggling in the first six weeks of the Trump Administration with what to focus on and how to respond, U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin laid out a roadmap that could help Democrats decide what to focus on going forward.

Slotkin noted that the "middle class is the engine of our country," and said change should be made but not in a "reckless" way. She warned that Trump wants to give billionaires tax cuts at the expense of other things that are important to most people and went after Elon Musk and "his gang of 20-year-olds" poking through private, sensitive data.

If Democrats want to take back the U.S. House of Representatives and make gains in the U.S. Senate, they must win on ideas. They can't just be the resistance; Democrats must stand for something. Except for Slotkin's response, this evening was not a good look for the Democrats.

## **America Approves**

A CNN poll of Americans who watched President Donald Trump's address to a joint session of Congress on Tuesday night shows that a huge majority approved of the message.

The poll found that 69% of speech-watchers said they viewed the president's speech as at least somewhat positive, compared to just 31 % who viewed the speech negatively.

Broken down further, 44% of viewers said they had a "very positive" reaction to the speech, in addition to 25% who had a "somewhat positive" reaction. For those who disapproved, 15% said they saw the speech as "somewhat negative," and 16% described it as "very negative."

The poll advertised a margin of error of 5.3%. "Among the entire sample, 21% described themselves as Democrats, 44% described themselves as Republicans, and 35% described themselves as independents or members of another party," CNN noted.