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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

April 27, 2005.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JO ANN EMERSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Fred S. Holloman, Chaplain, Kansas Senate, Topeka, Kansas, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, there are some time-honored proverbs and maxims which have been helpful in making decisions, but some of them are not always appropriate for our situation.

For instance, there are some sleeping dogs which really should be awakened. There are some squeaking wheels which do not deserve any grease. There are some boats which not only need to be rocked but need to be sunk.

Please give us the wisdom, O God, to decide which dogs to wake up, which squeaks to ignore, which boats to sink.

I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. CHOCOLA. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. CHOCOLA. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky 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 SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 28. Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of the Congress on World Intellectual Property Day regarding the importance of protecting intellectual property rights globally.

INTRODUCTION OF THE REVEREND FRED HOLLOMAN AS GUEST CHAPLAIN

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I am honored today to introduce to the House of Representatives the Reverend Fred Holloman of Topeka, Kansas. Reverend Holloman is a retired Southern Baptist minister and is currently a member of New Beginnings Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas.

Reverend Holloman retired in 2002 after serving 50 years in the ministry. He had attended seminary at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, after graduating from the University of Alabama. After serving in Oklahoma and Missouri, Reverend Holloman moved to Kansas in 1958. He was pastor in Baxter Springs, Manhattan, Lawrence, and Kansas City before concluding his career as a Baptist minister with a 15-year tenure in Topeka.

I am especially glad to be introducing my friend Reverend Holloman today because he served as the chaplain of the Kansas Senate during my time there. Fred was there a lot longer in the Kansas Senate than I. He has served as the senate chaplain for now 24 years, where he is known for his wit and his incisive thought when he delivers his invocation, but also known as someone who cares and has compassion for every member of our legislature and their families.

Many of Reverend Holloman's relatives have joined us today and are in attendance. He and his wife, Pat, have nine children. His children and grandchildren have come here to our Nation's Capital all the way from Texas and Kansas.

Please join me in welcoming the Reverend Holloman to the United States House of Representatives.

□ 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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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will now entertain ten 1-minutes from each side.

THE FIRST 100 DAYS OF THE 109TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. FOLEY. Madam Speaker, in the first 100 days of this Congress, we have passed class action fairness to combat lawsuit abuse. We have passed a supplemental appropriation funding our troops and their successful war in Iraq. We have passed a budget resolution. We have enforced and passed the REAL ID Act and border security, implementing driver's license reforms, defending our borders, strengthening deportation laws. We have passed the death tax repeal, the bankruptcy bill, and the Job Training Improvement Act. These are significant accomplishments.

Some on the other side of the aisle would prefer to bring down the character of a man that leads this Chamber. I suggest when my colleagues are out of ideas and out of opportunities, they attack other people.

It is time to get our own House in order. Lead forth the American people on behalf of the American people and stop this name calling, finger pointing, and derogatory accusations.

America's House of Representatives is much better than that. Let us lead by example. Let us not lead by destruction.

FRIENDS FOR THE CHILDREN

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, in 1993 a gentleman in my community, Duncan Campbell, provided three full-time friends for 24 at-risk children, children who were at the bottom of the barrel, children who were guaranteed to fail, not just poor but without family support.

With the efforts of these full-time mentors and this innovative program, we have produced stunning results over the course of the last 12 years. Ninety-eight percent of these children are still in school. Ninety-seven percent have passing grades. Ninety-eight percent have never been incarcerated. Ninety-seven percent do not use drugs or alcohol on a regular basis.

Today, this program has spread across the country. It is in 11 different communities with over 600 children. First Lady Laura Bush is expected to visit the Friends of Children program in Portland tomorrow. I commend her for taking the time to visit with the kids and learning more about this program.

Tomorrow, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), my colleague, and I are

introducing legislation that would authorize \$7.5 million for Friends of Children to support local programs at existing sites and disseminate this information to policy-makers around the country to make a commitment to improving the lives of at-risk children.

THE MINUTEMEN PROJECT

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, government waste, fraud, and abuse have taken every shape and form one can imagine, and now it is even affecting our lax immigration policies.

The U.S. Government recently spent close to \$240 million to help our border patrol with the latest technology. The problem is the equipment does not work. That is right, \$240 million and the government is left with a bunch of useless equipment. Sounds like we ought to get a refund.

The border patrol needs all the help it can get, and for the last few weeks, hundreds of concerned citizens formed the largest Neighborhood Watch in Arizona, the Minuteman Project. Their goal is to help spot illegal aliens crossing the border from Mexico.

Ordinary people watching the border and easily spotting aliens illegally crossing should outrage every single Member of Congress. How can we claim to be for national security, for the rule of law, when such incredible violation takes place in front of our very own eyes?

Madam Speaker, America is a very generous Nation, but we are allowing our laws to be broken and our borders to be violated without consequence.

It is long past time we secure our borders, reevaluate our immigration laws, and get serious about national security.

GM AND THE AMERICAN FISCAL CRISIS

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, it used to be said that what is good for GM is good for the country. Well, things are not so great for GM. What does that say about America?

Their cars are not selling because they face skyrocketing health care costs that put them at a competitive disadvantage with Toyota and other companies.

For every car GM produces, they actually spend more on health care than on steel. Yet it is not the United States Congress, the White House, seeking to help GM out of this problem. GM's knight in shining armor is Toyota.

On Monday, Toyota's chairman said the Japanese auto maker was considering raising its prices in order to give American car makers some breathing room.

Here is what former Governor John Engler from Michigan said of the GM crisis: We cannot, with the deficits we face today, step in and help this company get back on its feet.

We are too deep in debt to save hundreds of thousands of jobs and help an American company compete and win.

Today, we are facing a fiscal crisis that is stripping America of its ability to compete and win. The health care crisis facing General Motors is the same health care crisis facing the Federal Government and every American family, and yet we are in debt of nearly \$8 trillion and unable to compete and win in today's economy.

CONGRATULATING VILLA MADONNA ACADEMY ON ITS FORTHCOMING CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Villa Madonna Academy of Villa Hills, Kentucky, on its forthcoming centennial anniversary on May 14, 2005.

Villa Madonna Academy carries a long, distinguished reputation of preparing students to respect themselves and others, to have a sense of self-discipline, to accept personal responsibility for their attitudes and actions, and to dedicate themselves to academic excellence and lifelong learning.

Villa Madonna Academy has demonstrated its academic distinction by being the only greater Cincinnati-northern Kentucky area high school to receive designation, under two separate criteria, as a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence two consecutive years in 2002 and 2003.

Villa Madonna Academy's partnership with the nearby Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery provides opportunities for area youth to participate in a variety of sports activities and be outstanding neighbors in our community.

Once again, I want to congratulate the students, teachers and alumni of the Villa Madonna Academy on its centennial anniversary and to thank them for being such fine individuals and stewards of our community.

WORKERS' RIGHTS IN BREWER, MAINE

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

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, an all-out attack on workers' rights is happening in Brewer, Maine; and I come to the House floor today to tell DHL that it is time for them to stop their assault.

These Brewer workers have borne the brunt of these union-busting practices, and they are paying the price. For many, the price of their jobs has been