United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 152 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2006 No. 33

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Larry R. Hayward, Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

God of nations, among rulers You placed over Your people, King Hezekiah of Judah was among the strongest. He instituted reforms. He recaptured lost land. So pleased were You with his leadership You extended his life 17 years beyond a near-fatal illness.

Yet at the end of his life, Hezekiah succumbed to cynicism. ''Who cares about the days to come,'' he said to himself, ''as long as there is peace and security in my day.''

Lord, save each Member of this body from similar cynicism. Instill within Members concern not only for our own day, but for days to come. Lift vision beyond the next election, beyond party caucus, sometimes even beyond constituent mail so that this branch, and all branches, of our government may focus on the shape of our Nation and its place in the world for generations to come. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. BEAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BEAN 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.

WELCOMING REVEREND LARRY R. HAYWARD

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

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to hear Dr. Larry Hayward give our opening prayer this morning. For some 25 years, he has been preaching and teaching. His journey has taken him from Texas to Iowa to the D.C. area. Now he is the pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, a church that my wife and I attend when we are here in Washington.

He is a graduate of Union Seminary in New York. In his personal life, he certainly has a love and respect for history, government and sports, but it is also clear that the Lord comes first.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 10 one-minutes per side.

SECURITY ISSUES

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority has carefully guarded the economic and national security of this great Nation. Our tax policies have helped create over 4.7 million new jobs in 30 months, and that is incredible progress.

On the national security front, we are taking apart the al Qaeda network piece by piece. The PATRIOT Act, our call monitoring program, our aggressive action in the Middle East, each of these actions are making it more and more difficult for terrorists to operate on U.S. soil.

Mr. Speaker, President Bush deserves a great deal of the credit for this tough stance on terrorism. The Senate Democrats are talking about censuring the President, though. They are opposed to his aggressive approach to fighting terrorism. But I hope that the Democrats in this body realize America wants us to do everything possible to defend our homes, our communities and this Nation, and that is what the President is doing.

MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL RESOLUTION

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

Ms. BEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend our Armed Forces medical personnel who provide outstanding care to our servicemembers wounded in battle. During a trip to Iraq last fall, I visited our theater hospital at Balad Air Force Base and witnessed these skilled medical professionals in action and met the brave soldiers whose lives they saved.

Newsweek's current cover story recounts in harrowing detail Lieutenant Colonel Richard Jadick's heroic performance during the 2004 assault on Fallujah. The 38-year-old Navy doctor and former marine volunteered to serve alongside the First Battalion, Eighth Marines in what would be his first combat experience.

During 11 days of battle, Dr. Jadick and his team of 54 Navy corpsmen treated hundreds of men and saved the lives of at least 30 seriously wounded marines.

Mr. Speaker, the survivability rate for wounded personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan is the best of any conflict in our Nation's history, due, in no small part, to the skill and courage of personnel like Dr. Jadick.

This morning I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H. Con. Res. 309 and join me in saluting these outstanding servicemembers for their hard work and fearless dedication.

Printed on recycled paper.