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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. LEE of California).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 16, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BARBARA LEE to act a Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Tri Robinson, Vineyard Boise Church, Boise, Idaho, offered the following prayer:

Good morning. It is a privilege to be here.

At a time like this, I didn't want to rely on my own wisdom to pray for you this morning or with you this morning, so I would like to pray the words of the Apostle Paul as he addressed the Philippians.

Dear Lord, as the Apostle Paul once prayed over the people of Philippi, today we echo not only his words, but the heart from which they were spoken.

We pray that if we have any encouragement from belonging to God, any comfort from His love, any fellowship together in His spirit, then let our hearts be tender and compassionate, agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and one purpose.

We pray, as Paul prayed, for pure motives, for selflessness, not trying to impress others, but being humble, thinking of others as more important than ourselves. We pray that we wouldn't look out for our own interests, but rep-

resent the interests of those that we're called to serve. We pray that we might have the same attitude as that of Christ, as He willingly and purposefully became a servant, literally laying down His life for the benefit of all mankind.

We pray these things over this place, this House today, in Jesus' name. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. LANCE 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 TRI ROBINSON

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

Mr. MINNICK. Madam Speaker, I rise this morning to welcome to this august Chamber the Reverend Tri Robinson, the founder and leader of the Vineyard Christian Fellowship, one of the largest and most rapidly growing churches in my home town of Boise, Idaho.

Tri leads a Christian fellowship, proud of its natural, Bible-based worship, devotion to prayer, and generous service to all in need. Tri and his parishioners feed the hungry, house the

homeless, engage and educate our youth, and work hard to protect the places we love in the West. He is an educator, author, and Idaho cowboy who has become a pioneer of environmental stewardship for the evangelical churches all over America.

As his Representative in Congress, I welcome Tri Robinson to this House, and I thank him for his moving spiritual guidance.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

CONGRATULATING BROWARD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Broward County School District, one of four finalists for the Broad Prize for Urban Education. The Broad Prize is known as the "Nobel Prize for public education" and is awarded to districts that show strong reading and math skills among low-income and minority students.

As a finalist for the second consecutive year, Broward schools have made real strides toward closing the achievement gap in public education and have set a standard of excellence for all students.

The winning school district, to be announced this week, will take home \$1 million in student scholarships, and all finalists receive \$250,000, a critical boost in these difficult economic times.

I congratulate Superintendent James Notter and School Board Chair Maureen Dinnen, as well as the students, parents, and teachers in the

□ 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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