Pastor Springer was recalled to serve in active duty and received the Air Force Achievement Medal for his service.

After 15 years of service to his Nation, Pastor Springer was called to serve God and centered Congregatio Seminary in St. Louis in 1977. After graduating, Pastor Springer was ordained as a pastor of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in 2000.

He received his first call to Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church and School in Chester, Illinois. His service to his church and his community, including his work as chairman of the Chester Veterans Memorial Committee, earned him the honor of Outstanding Citizen of Chester in 2001.

Today, Pastor Springer serves as senior pastor of Trinity Lutheran Ministries of Edwardsville, Illinois, where he oversees a church, Christian day school, and a day school center. He has completed three mission trips to Kazakhstan, Haiti, and Honduras and is working to complete his clinical pastoral education at Alexian Brothers Medical System in St. Louis.

Pastor Springer has been a model of service for his community, his church, and his Nation; and it’s truly my honor, Pastor, to join my colleagues in welcoming you as our guest chaplain. It’s a privilege to represent you, and it’s a privilege that you’re here today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a balanced budget amendment to our Constitution.

For 24 years, I ran my own small business with my wife. We had to balance our budget every month and every year. I’ve also raised three boys with my wife, and we’ve had to balance our budget as a family in order to live within our means.

I believe the United States Constitution is one of the greatest documents ever written, and I don’t take amending it lightly. However, we must curb the voracious appetite of the Federal Government and get our fiscal House in order.

We passed the $15 trillion mark in our national debt yesterday, and we are seeing other countries around the world succumb to their debt. We must fix our debt crisis before it’s too late.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this balanced budget amendment to our Constitution, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of House Joint Resolution 2. Our kids and grandkids are depending on it.

SANCITNT OF VEGETABLES

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Congress seems determined to undermine recent nutrition standards proposed by the Obama administration. It’s shameful that we are poised to intervene to make sure that pizza continues to count as a vegetable and that we protect the privileged status of French fries on the lunch tray.

The problem we have in front of us is the institution of vegetables has been weakened in this country, and the effort to redefine it on this vast social experiment that we have going on, redefining vegetables differently than they have ever been defined by mankind before. This effort of this vast social experiment, the early data that we see from other places harms the institution of the family, the raising of the next generation, and is harmful to the future of the Republic.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind Members to direct their remarks to the Speaker and not to a perceived viewing audience.

A BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

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

Ms. DONNELLY of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

The fact is for too long Washington has not made the necessary and tough decisions that need to be made to get our budget deficit under control. Working families in Indiana know all too