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No. 2

House of Representatives

The House met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NUSSLE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 28, 1998.

I hereby designate the Honorable JIM NUSSLE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Paul I. Nussle, Executive Director, Exodus Housing, Sumner, Washington, offered the following prayer:

To everything there is a season. Turn, turn, turn. This is a time for every noble purpose under heaven.

Gracious and Mighty God, as we assemble in this Chamber rich with a tradition of freedom and steeped in sacred liberty, grant us clarity to see Your presence this day, and courage to place firm reliance on Your living Word!

Still the voices of clamor and turmoil that bring division; counsel us in seeking mercy when overzealousness for justice would tear the fabric of steadfast love and grace.

This is the Season and this is the Time when we would again take firm hold of the words carved in the podium before us; a rudder for our course!

Peace, liberty, tolerance, justice, union. This is the season and this is the time, refreshed from recess, letting go of sorrows and yearnings unattained, we come with eagerness to pursue noble ambition.

Lord, may Your benediction of peace and mercy keep us from hypocrisy this day and always. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

Mr. KLECZKA 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. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had agreed to a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 201. Concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment of both Houses.

The message also announced that the Senate had agreed to a resolution of the following title:

S. Res. 165. *Resolved*, That the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

RENAMING WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, just when we thought we had heard it all, now the effort to rename Washington's National Airport after one of our Nation's most respected leaders in the

20th century has met with opposition that is purely partisan in nature. Opposing the effort to pay tribute to President Ronald Reagan is just the latest example of "oh, you are for it? Well, we are against it now" politics employed by my liberal colleagues.

I understand that the diversity of opinion in this House are often vital when setting policies of this Nation. A healthy debate is an absolute must if we are to reach sound conclusions on important and vital national issues. However, I feel it is an absolute disservice to a great man that petty, partisan politics threatens to stain his great legacy.

This is clearly no place for partisan politics. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2625, a bill to rename Washington's National Airport after former President Ronald Reagan.

MEDICARE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION ACT

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

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Medicare Preservation and Restoration Act in response to the concerns of many seniors in my district and around the country about the recent changes of the Medicare program.

As my colleagues know, the Balanced Budget Amendment of 1997 contains the Kyl amendment, which permits private contracting between doctors and Medicare beneficiaries for medical services that otherwise would be covered under the Medicare program.

Know full well that private contracts will increase medical expenses for America's seniors and substantially weaken the integrity of the program. Beneficiaries who establish private

□ 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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