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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

May Your spirit so purify our spirits, O God, that our motivations will be made clear, that our actions will be more respectful, that our vision will be raised, that our thoughts will be more considerate and that our words will testify to integrity and honor. We recognize, gracious God, that we often miss the mark and follow too narrow a path, so help us open our eyes to the truth which shall surely set us free. 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 gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LAMPSON 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 PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed

with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 131. Concurrent resolution acknowledging 1998 as the International Year of the Ocean and expressing the sense of Congress regarding the ocean.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1900) "An Act to establish a commission to examine issues pertaining to the disposition of Holocaust-era assets in the United States before, during, and after World War II, and to make recommendations to the President on further action, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate passed bills of the following titles, in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1364. An act to eliminate unnecessary and wasteful Federal reports.

S. 2069. An act to permit the mineral leasing of Indian land located within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in any case in which there is consent from a majority interest in the parcel of land under consideration for lease.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize eight 1-minutes on each side.

### CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I simply want to take a moment to praise two great Americans who are taking positive action to help educate the children of America. Ted Forstmann and John Walton announced Tuesday the creation of the Children's Scholarship Fund, a \$200 million matching funds scholarship program that will

allow children in grades K through 12 to attend schools they and their parents choose, schools that will give them the best possible education and the best possible chance to succeed in life.

They set up this fund in a unique way. They have invited the mayors of 310 cities in America, all with populations over 75,000, to participate by finding local partners to contribute funds for scholarships for needy children. Forstmann and Walton will match these local partners with \$100 million of their own money.

I want to first recognize them and thank them for their commitment to helping students here in our Nation's capital, and I stand here today because I am enthused that they have taken this tremendous next step.

But I want to drive two points home: No child anywhere in America should be trapped in a bad school with a bad education with a bad safety record. No child anywhere, of any background, in any neighborhood should be trapped. It is tragic that the Federal Government does not meet the citizenship of Mr. Forstmann and Mr. Walton.

Second, I praise their generosity and the spirit of Tocqueville's Democracy in America. Their commitment, as citizens, of their own money, voluntarily, because they care, is what America is really all about. That is why, when we cut taxes, it is to increase the take-home pay of citizens so citizens can then be active in their community, because they have more time and more take-home pay.

I would simply say that Mr. Forstmann and Mr. Walton are models of the kind of citizenship we are supporting.

### HATE CRIME IN JASPER, TEXAS, WILL BE FULLY PROSECUTED

(Mr. TURNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

□ 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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