

Clearly, as Republicans, our goal is simple. We want the information super-highway to be a freeway and not a toll-way.

I also want to mention two other proposals I am proud to sponsor, legislation which is designed to ensure the information highway is a freeway not a toll-way. I talked earlier about lower-income families not having computer and Internet access at home. I am proud to say that major employers in the State that I represent in Illinois have stepped forward, the private sector stepping forward to provide Internet and computer access as an employee benefit so the children of their janitors and laborers and assembly line workers of companies like Ford, Intel, American Airlines, and Delta Airlines have those computers.

Well, those computers should be tax free. Right now the IRS would like to tax them. That act would ensure they are treated the same as an employee benefit, such as pensions and retirement, as well as health care. I ask bipartisan support, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on these proposals.

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## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

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□ 1400

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida) at 2 p.m.

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## PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of the field; the grass withers and the flower wilts; but the Word of the Lord remains forever."

Creator of nature's beauty and Redeemer of all humanity, we have been born anew, not from perishable but from imperishable seed.

Your Word, O Lord, has created grateful hearts amid the wonders of this land and the rich progress of this Nation. May we never be weeded into discontent.

In all peoples You plant the seed of justice. Bring forth a springtime of peace among nations.

May the actions of this assembly nurture obedience to truth which produces sincerity of heart and mutual trust.

This is the Word we have accepted and now proclaim to the world: "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of the field; the grass withers and the flower wilts; but the Word of the Lord remains forever." 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.

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## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. TRAFICANT 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.

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## SCANDALS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

(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, well, it took almost 2 years, but memos from FBI Director Louis Freeh regarding the Democratic fund-raising scandal have finally been turned over to Congress.

Perhaps the Clinton administration was hoping that the memos would never turn up, especially since they state that key administration officials were under a lot of pressure not to go forward with the investigation because the Attorney General's job might hang in the balance.

The American people have a right to expect the Department of Justice to investigate wrongdoing, no matter where it may occur.

Mr. Speaker, the Clinton administration is not exempt from the laws of our Nation. It is my hope that the ongoing congressional hearings and investigations into these scandals will reveal the truth once and for all.

I yield back the continuing scandals and illegal cover-ups that have become an unfortunate characteristic of this administration.

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## CHINA SAYS AMERICAN SHIPS ARE DEAD MEAT

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, military experts say that China just bought 24 cruise missiles from Russia. They now say American ships are now, quote/unquote, dead meat, dead meat. Think about it. We give Russia foreign aid. Russia builds missiles. Russia sells the missiles to China, built with American cash. China threatens Taiwan and Uncle Sam. Unbelievable.

I think it is time for Congress to tell China to keep their Communist hands off of Taiwan.

In addition, this sweetheart trade deal bothers me. It is very dangerous.

If Uncle Sam will turn the other cheek on Taiwan, China will laugh all the way to the bank on this trade deal. Beam me up. We have gone from better dead than red to dead meat.

I yield back America's Naval fleet being called dead meat by Naval experts.

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## IT IS TIME TO ABOLISH THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR TAX

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, one of the top movies in America today is "Gladiator," a story of a young upstart struggling against an outdated and cruel dictatorship.

This week, the House will witness a similar struggle, Americans with phone lines versus the Internal Revenue Service.

More than 252 million businesses and families use phone lines, allowing them access to telephones, faxes, computers, and cellular phones. They are beneficiaries of modern technological advances that have changed our society, and yet every time Americans use this technology, the IRS financially penalizes them with the outdated Spanish-American War phone tax.

This tax was used to fund the Spanish-American War, a conflict which began and ended in 1898, 102 years ago. It is yet another case of a greedy and overbearing government using any means to tax hard-working Americans and this must end.

This week, let us disconnect Americans from the Spanish-American War phone tax.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules but not before 6 p.m. today.

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## NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2000

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 834) to extend the authorization for the National Historic Preservation Fund, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate Amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 2000".*