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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 13, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GIL GUTKNECHT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God of the ancient covenant with Abraham, be with us now.

You spoke to the man of faith and broke the silence of human history. You said to Abraham:

"I am God Almighty. Live always in my presence and be perfect, so that I may set my covenant between myself and you and multiply your descendants."

As God Almighty, in personal relationship with the human family, You become the God of the living, the God of our father Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and their descendants in faith.

Because of this relationship with You, people even to this day stay in dialogue with You. By prayer, living in

Your presence, and daily efforts to being faithful to Your covenant, Your people themselves change. Although You the Almighty do not change, You perfect Your people of faith according to Your design, Your call, and Your purpose.

Renew today Your covenant with Your people. Make of us a people of promise and hope, a people bound to be faithful to their commitments, a people who respect all the living. As descendants of Abrahamic faith, believing in a living God, may all Your people come together in peace through justice and compassion, both now and 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. GEKAS 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain ten 1-minute speeches on each side.

LACK OF PERFORMANCE IS REFLECTED IN OUTCOME

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, we are here on December 13 in our Nation's Capitol awaiting some progress from the other Chamber. The economy is in trouble. Joblessness is increasing. Unemployment and layoffs are occurring around our Nation. It seems like on the other end of this hallway they are tone deaf to the problems facing average Americans.

The House passed an economic stimulus bill, the President has a blueprint for an economic stimulus bill, and somewhere over on the other side of this wonderful, majestic building are people that do not get it. They do not understand the pain and anguish of Americans who are suffering. They do not recognize as we head into the holidays that people need some hope in the economy and the stock market needs a little boost.

NOTICE

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Michael F. DiMario, *Public Printer*

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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Now, I pray over the next couple of days that they find their direction and find their way to assist average Americans in making a more secure future for themselves and their families. They can leave this Capitol without doing anything, and they will be the do-nothing other body. I am trying to avoid using the term, because I do not want to be admonished by the Chair. But I think most Americans are disgusted by their lack of performance, and it will be reflected.

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair must admonish the Member that it is a violation of House rules to speak disparagingly about Members of other body.

**HAPPY 70TH BIRTHDAY TO MITZIE
WILSON, A PILLAR OF THE COM-
MUNITY**

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

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker I rise today to pay tribute to Mitzie Wilson, an outstanding American, friend and neighbor from Charleroi, Pennsylvania, my hometown. She, her husband, Don, and her son, Glenn, are considered pillars of the community. She will celebrate her 70th birthday on January 17, 2002. We wish her a happy birthday and many more to come.

While many of us in Congress talk about the importance of family values, Mitzie and her family serve as a model that every American should emulate. They are the first to offer to take neighbors for doctor visits, pick up prescriptions at a drugstore, and shovel walks for elderly neighbors. As if that were not enough, her son is a volunteer firefighter in Charleroi, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Mascara and I have been the recipients of their kind acts.

Finally, Mitzie served our country as a member of the Air Forces, United States Air Force serving in Guam. Happy birthday, Mitzie. We are proud to know you and to be considered your friend.

**TERRORISM IN INDONESIA MUST
BE ADDRESSED AS PART OF
WAR ON TERRORISM**

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of concern over the serious internal terrorist attacks occurring in Indonesia.

A terrorist extremist group, Laskar Jihad, led by a man by the name of Jafar Umar Thalib, has caused tremendous destruction, death, and internal displacement of the Indonesian people.

In Poso, Central Sulawesi, villagers are presently fleeing in terror as Laskar Jihad attacks and burns their homes and kills innocent people.

Credible reports in the news media have revealed links because the Laskar Jihad and the al Qaeda organization. During the attacks in Poso, foreigners from countries like Pakistan and Afghanistan have been seen among the terrorists. There is not only a strong ideological link, but also an important financial link between al Qaeda and Laskar Jihad.

Mr. Speaker, it is vital that we work proactively with the Indonesian Government as their officials seek to appropriately respond to terrorism and as they continue to establish democracy and stability in their Nation.

This is another front in the international war on terrorism that should be addressed.

**BIN LADEN CANNOT HIDE MUCH
LONGER**

(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, Osama bin Laden is holed up in Tora Bora. Reports say that bin Laden is near the precipice of his great demise. The cornerstone of his condominium is crumbling, and they predict he will fall.

Think about it. Bin Laden was always one who was flexing his muscles, strutting his stuff, scaring people to death.

Beam me up. I now officially deem bin Laden as "bin hidem." This gutless coward from Tora Bora has no balsam, period.

I yield back with a famous quote of Mohammed Ali. Bin Laden can run, but bin Laden cannot hide much longer.

**STAFF DESERVE RESPECT AND
APPRECIATION**

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Bible tells us that the testing of our faith develops perseverance, and perseverance must finish its work that we might be mature, complete, not lacking in anything.

At this hour, Mr. Speaker, as every day since the emergency adjournment of the Congress on October 17, my Washington staff labors on card tables and folding chairs in the relative obscurity of a Rayburn office building banquet hall. These dedicated young people have been exiled from our Washington office ever since we learned that trace elements of anthrax were discovered there; and they have been laboring, Mr. Speaker, with astonishing integrity and astonishing commitment and dedication to the thousands of people we serve across east central Indi-

ana. Bill Smith, Ron Arnold, Jennifer Marsh, Patrick Wilson, Stephen Piepgrass, Ryan Fisher, Andrew Kincaid, Chris Kiefer, and Mary Breeding all deserve recognition for their patient endurance in the trial of serving and especially for their patience in putting up with me.

When I asked each one of them whether or not they might talk with their parents about a better place to work after 9-11 and even after the anthrax scare, I told them there was only one family that had to be in Washington, D.C. to serve the people in this district and that was mine; and to their undying credit, every one of them stayed. They labor at this very hour on behalf of the people of the second district, and they deserve our respect and appreciation.

**THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT**

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the Republican leadership to bring the bill of the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), H.R. 1343, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, to the House floor before we leave next week.

Communities across the Nation, including Marin and Sonoma Counties, where I work and that I am privileged to represent, are horrified by the brutal crimes committed against innocent Sikhs, Arabs, Indians, and people of Muslim faith. Our children are watching in horror as their moms, their dads, brothers, sisters and close friends are being harassed, spit on, beaten, and, even worse, killed.

These hate crimes are happening in their neighborhoods, their schools, and their places of worship. Does this Congress want to stand by and let our children be subjected to this kind of hate, or will the 107th Congress recognize the problem at hand and take the action necessary to reverse this trend by bringing H.R. 1343 forward?

Mr. Speaker, we must pass this bipartisan bill now.

**LACK OF ACTION IS
DISAPPOINTING**

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

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, we saw our Nation unite as never before. For a time this unity exhibited itself in Washington in a refreshing spirit of bipartisanship.

Unfortunately, today while the American people remain united behind the war, some in the other body are united behind the majority leader in their desire to obstruct certain important pieces of legislation. Here in the