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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. ISAKSON).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

October 9, 2002.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Robert A. Thrift, St. Bernice Baptist Church, Terre Haute, Indiana, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, it is indeed a privilege to share in the opening ceremony of a daily session of the Congress of the United States of America.

Yet it is an awesome privilege to come confidently into Your presence to ask for help in times like these.

We give You praise and thanksgiving for who You are, what You are like, and all You have done for us individually and collectively.

Thank You for the heritage we have as one Nation under God. Forgive us in departing from You. May we return and remain true to that heritage.

For the Members of Congress we pray that wisdom would enter each heart, that understanding would be their delight and that discretion would guard and guide them in all their deliberations.

We bring these petitions and praise You because the kingdom, all power, and all glory truly belong to You.

In Thy name, 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 Washington (Mr. INSLEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. INSLEE 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 receive 10 one-minute speeches on each side after the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. KERNS) is recognized for 1 minute.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND ROBERT A. THRIFT

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

Mr. KERNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to welcome Robert A. Thrift from St. Bernice, Indiana, as our guest chaplain.

Reverend Thrift has been pastor of St. Bernice Baptist Church for 8 years. He has four wonderful children: Paul, Janie, Ann, Carrie; and seven beautiful grandchildren: Mason, Tyler, Paige, Carson, Claire, Courtney, and Cole. His son Paul and grandson Carson are, in fact, with us today.

Reverend Thrift graduated from Houston Baptist University where he received his BA. He is also a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been a pastor both in

Texas where he was born and in Indiana where he resides with his family.

Reverend Thrift has always helped those who are less fortunate. He has assisted juveniles who had drug problems and alcohol problems, and he also spends his time giving comfort to those who have been hospitalized.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for all of Indiana and myself to have Reverend Thrift present the prayer today in the United States House of Representatives.

CHILD ABDUCTION PREVENTION

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the House passed H.R. 5422, the Child Abduction Prevention Act. As the founder of the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children, I would like to thank my colleagues for coming together to pass this important piece of legislation.

The provisions of a bill that I introduced, the Secret Service Child Protection Act, were included in the bill. Many people do not know this, but the Secret Service does more than protect the President. They help find missing kids. I wanted to make sure that they are able to continue assisting investigators, and I worked hard to have the Secret Service bill included in this overarching bill. The Secret Service is a key player in the effort to reunite families and to protect children.

The U.S. Secret Service provides resources, expertise, and other assistance to local law enforcement agencies and to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in cases involving missing and exploited children. However, even though the partnership is strong, there was a clear need to provide explicit statutory jurisdiction to the Secret Service to continue this forensic and investigative support upon

□ 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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request from local law enforcement or the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The bill that we passed on Monday will do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for working together so that we may hopefully help prevent further abduction and exploitation of children across America.

EXHAUST ALL OUR OPTIONS BEFORE WAR

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, this week I will vote against a unilateral, ill-timed, go-it-alone war on another nation.

We do not owe Saddam Hussein any more time. We do not owe him anything. But we do owe our soldiers and our Marines, our sons and our daughters, every effort to try every means before war; and it is clear that we have not yet exhausted all of our options before opening the door to war.

We will not allow the pain of last September to spread a cloud of fear that would shroud our judgment, our sense of international justice; and we must not be distracted from the war on terrorism in which we are already engaged.

We will equal the power of our Armed Forces with the force of our principles; and one of those principles is that America should lead an international coalition, not just go it alone. This is the American way.

THE ECONOMY

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

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, the war debate this week is one that deserves our careful attention, but our economy does, too.

While Republicans in Congress focus on drumming up support for a preemptive strike on Iraq, our economy is faltering. The statistics tell the story, and they are staggering.

The number of Americans without health insurance rose by 1.4 million last year. It is up to 41 million now. The poverty rate rose last year for the first time since 1992. Twenty-one percent of Hispanic families are now living in poverty, and more than 2 million jobs have been lost under President Bush.

I understand that because in my own district unemployment rates are as high as 11 percent. Utility bills and the price of gasoline are increasing. Thousands of hardworking men and women have seen their retirement savings evaporate before our eyes.

Congressional Republicans are ignoring these problems. Democrats understand that we need to take charge of our economy now. Let us do it before we adjourn. Let us raise the minimum

wage, and we need to pass a Medicare prescription drug benefit that lowers drug prices and covers all seniors. We need to extend unemployment benefits for those people that have lost their jobs and are now seeking some relief from our government. Let us do the right thing before we adjourn. Let us help working families.

REMARKS MADE DURING IRAQ DEBATE

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

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HOSTETTLER) made remarks at 10:30 last night which I think are deserving of being brought back to this House in the light of day. He said, Today a novel case is being made that the best defense is a good offense, but is this a power that the Framers of the Constitution meant to pass down to their posterity when they sought to secure for us the blessings of liberty? I think not.

Then he went on to quote from the founding of our country, the very beginning, the Minutemen facing the British and the Commander John Parker, Do not fire lest fired upon, but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here.

It is a notion that is as least as old as Saint Augustus' war thesis, and it finds agreement with the Minutemen and the Framers of the Constitution. We should not turn our back today on the millennia of wisdom by proposing to send America's beautiful sons and daughters into harm's way for what might be.

These words spoken late last night deserve consideration by this body and this Nation.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER A MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4546, BOB STUMP NATIONAL DEFENSE AU- THORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XXII, I hereby notify the House of my intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on the national defense authorization bill which has been in conference since July 26, 2002.

The form of the motion is as follows:

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 4546 be instructed to agree to the provisions contained in section 641 of the Senate amendment (relating to payment of retired pay and compensation to disabled military retirees).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will now put the question on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed on Monday, October 7, in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 5542, by the yeas and nays;
H.J. Res. 113, by the yeas and nays;
H.R. 3580, by the yeas and nays;
H.R. 5557, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

BLACK LUNG CONSOLIDATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 5542, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5542, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 404, nays 0, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 448]

YEAS—404

Abercrombie	Capps	Etheridge
Ackerman	Capuano	Evans
Aderholt	Cardin	Everett
Allen	Carson (IN)	Farr
Armey	Carson (OK)	Fattah
Baca	Castle	Ferguson
Bachus	Chabot	Filner
Baird	Chambliss	Flake
Baker	Clay	Fletcher
Baldacci	Clayton	Foley
Baldwin	Clement	Forbes
Ballenger	Clyburn	Ford
Barcia	Coble	Fossella
Barr	Collins	Frank
Barrett	Combest	Frelinghuysen
Bartlett	Condit	Frost
Barton	Costello	Galleghy
Bass	Cox	Ganske
Becerra	Coyne	Gekas
Bentsen	Cramer	Gephardt
Bereuter	Crane	Gibbons
Berkley	Crenshaw	Gilchrest
Berman	Crowley	Gillmor
Berry	Cubin	Gilman
Biggert	Culberson	Gonzalez
Billirakis	Cunningham	Goode
Bishop	Davis (CA)	Goodlatte
Blumenauer	Davis (FL)	Goss
Blunt	Davis (IL)	Graham
Boehlert	Davis, Jo Ann	Granger
Boehner	Davis, Tom	Graves
Bonilla	Deal	Green (TX)
Bonior	DeFazio	Green (WI)
Boozman	DeGette	Greenwood
Borski	Delahunt	Grucci
Boswell	DeLauro	Gutierrez
Boucher	DeLay	Gutknecht
Boyd	DeMint	Hall (TX)
Brady (PA)	Deutsch	Hansen
Brady (TX)	Dicks	Harman
Brown (FL)	Dingell	Hart
Brown (OH)	Dooley	Hastings (FL)
Brown (SC)	Doyle	Hastings (WA)
Bryant	Dreier	Hayes
Burr	Duncan	Hayworth
Burton	Dunn	Hefley
Buyer	Edwards	Hegger
Callahan	Ehlers	Hill
Calvert	Emerson	Hilliard
Camp	Engel	Hinchey
Cantor	English	Hinojosa
Capito	Eshoo	Hobson