The Clerk. Four hundred thirty-two Members have recorded their presence. A quorum is present.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CLERK

The Clerk. The Clerk will state that credentials, regular in form, have been received showing the election of the Honorable ANIRUL ACEVEDO-VILA as Resident Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for a term of 4 years beginning January 3, 2001; the election of the Honorable ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON as delegate from the District of Columbia; the election of the Honorable DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN as delegate of the Virgin Islands; the election of the Honorable Eni F.H. Faleomavaega as delegate from American Samoa; and the election of the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo as delegate from Guam.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Clerk. Pursuant to law and to precedent, the next order of business is the election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 108th Congress.

Nominations are now in order.

The Clerk recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PAYCE).

Ms. PAYCE of Ohio. Mr. Clerk, for 4 years we have been blessed to have an individual of fairness, honesty, and common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man has been a common sense lead us without regard to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party. During even the most difficult of times, this common man to rank or party.
United States of America, the name of the Honorable J. DENNIS HASTERT, a representative-elect from the State of Illinois.

The CLERK. The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ).

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Clerk, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, I am directed by the unanimous vote of that caucus to present for election to the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 108th Congress an incredibly talented Member of the Democratic Caucus and, for the first time in history, the name of a woman, the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, a representative-elect from the State of California.

The CLERK. The Honorable J. DENNIS HASTERT, a representative-elect from the State of Illinois, and the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, a representative-elect from the State of California, have been placed in nomination.

Are there further nominations?

There being no further nominations, the Clerk will appoint the tellers.

The Clerk appoints the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEW) and the gentleman from California (Ms. PELOSI), as tellers.

The following is the result of the vote cast.

[Roll No. 2]

HASTERT—228

Abercrombie

Hastert

Honorable
criticizes

The roll will now be called, and those responding to their names will indicate by surname the nominee of their choice.

The reading clerk will now call the roll.

The tellers having taken their places, the House proceeded to vote for the Speaker.

The following is the result of the vote:

Mr. MENENDEZ. First, congratulations to each and every Member of this Committee of Escort.

Ms. PELOSI. Thank you. The Sergeant at Arms announced the Speaker-elect of the House of Representatives for the 108th Congress, who was elected Speaker of the House by the Chair.

The Clerk, the tellers agree in their tallies that the total number of votes cast is 434, of which the Honorable J. DENNIS HASTERT of the State of Illinois has received 228, the Honorable NANCY PELOSI of the State of California has received 201, the Honorable John M. Murtha of the State of Pennsylvania has received 1 vote, with 4 recorded as present.

Therefore, the Honorable J. DENNIS HASTERT of the State of Illinois is duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 108th Congress, having received the majority of the votes cast.

The Clerk appoints Mr. LEWIS and Mr. HASTERT, to be Speaker-elect to the chair: The gentleman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DE LAYY), the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE), the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CRANE), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EVANS), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. COSTELLO), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTTIERREZ), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WEHR), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHAKOWSKY), the gentleman from Illinois (Ms. ROSENTHAL), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FREEDMAN), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL).

The committee will retire from the Chamber to escort the Speaker-elect to the chair.

The Sergeant at Arms announced the Speaker-elect of the House of Representatives of the 108th Congress, who was escorted to the chair by the Committee of Escort.
House on your swearing-in to the 108th Congress which is about to occur. A special congratulations and welcome to the freshmen to the Capitol and certainly to their families and friends. Let us all welcome our freshmen Members.

Let me thank my Democratic colleagues. I am humbled by the honor they have bestowed upon me to become the House Democratic leader. I know that I speak for all of us when I express profound gratitude to our esteemed colleague, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT). We thank the gentleman for his unwavering service to this institution and to our country. It is a great honor to follow in his footsteps.

And to my family, my dear husband, Paul, our five children, and our five grandchildren, and to my D'Alesandro family, I thank them very much for the love, support, encouragement, and joy that they have given me.

Because of you, and the people of San Francisco, I am honored to serve, I had the unprecedented privilege today to have my name placed in nomination as the first woman ever to do so in the history of the House of Representatives.

I am grateful to my colleagues for the confidence and proud of my party for breaking down another barrier and leading America closer to the ideal of equality that is both our heritage and our hope.

We are in the people’s House; and today, I want to pay tribute to the American people. It is their greatness, their fair-mindedness, their commitment to family, their willingness to hope and dream that sustain our country.

I especially wish to acknowledge the men and women in uniform whose courage keeps our country free and safe and makes it possible for us to strive for peace on Earth and goodwill toward mankind.

For more than 214 years, the American people have issued a most awesome challenge to those of us in Congress. Debate, the American people tell us when they send us here, debate the great issues of our Nation. Decide matters of war and peace. Fashion laws and policies that will make our economy sound, our institutions fair, our society just, our environment protected, our people educated and healthy, our religious beliefs free from constraint, and our homeland secure from terror.

Debate policies, the American people tell us, which will ensure peace and justice throughout the world, comfort the afflicted, give voice to the oppressed and make the future brighter for our children.

Today I speak as the leader of the minority in a closely divided House of Representatives. We are on different sides of the aisle, but we have shared oath and a greater obligation to serve our country together, both to find common ground wherever we can and to stand our ground wherever we must to be true to the people we represent.

My colleagues, I commit to all of you and to the American people that our party will always stand for the principles in which we believe, for I believe those principles represent the mainstream beliefs of our Nation: fairness, opportunity, patriotism, community, equal rights, a strong America, safe and prosperous at home, and committed abroad to a more secure and just world, free from the fear of terrorism.

So in that spirit, I ask the majority in this House and the administration to join us in a new spirit to get our economy moving again in a way that helps working families. I ask that you join us in creating jobs and providing access to quality health care for America’s families, including a prescription drug coverage for our seniors.

I ask that, after having passed the Leave No Child Behind Act, we act now to pledge to put our children first and fully fund their education.

Finally, I am honored, on the great and fateful issues we have all faced as Americans, especially since September 11, let me pledge for my party our absolute commitment to our national security, to winning the battle against terrorism, to countering the threat of weapons of mass destruction.

At times, we will have to debate on how best to provide for the common defense. That debate is not only right and necessary, it is at the heart of our democracy. But let there be no doubt, in our commitment to the strength and safety of America, there are no Democrats, there are no Republicans. Together, as Americans, we must and will prevail.

We have great and grave issues to decide, as fateful as any faced by any of the 107 Congresses before us. So let us reach across party lines as we stand for principle, and let this be our own test, to advance and defend what is best for America.

Now it is my privilege to present the Speaker of the House with my warmest congratulations. Mr. Speaker, I hope in the next Congress our roles will be reversed, and you will have this wonderful privilege of presenting the gavel.

In introducing our Speaker, let me first pay tribute to his skill, his decency and his integrity. We all hold the title of “honorable” by virtue of the office and further enhance that title with “honorable” by virtue of his character. He is a man of honor.

It is my privilege, colleagues, to present the Speaker of the House for the 108th Congress, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT).

The SPEAKER. I want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI) for her gracious remarks, and I want to congratulate her for her historic achievement. NANCY PELOSI is the first woman in our Nation’s history to be nominated to be Speaker of the House of Representatives. Now that this glass ceiling has been broken, I trust she will not be the last.

NANCY PELOSI is not the only woman to make history today. The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) today becomes the first woman to chair the House Republican Conference. I want to congratulate her as well.

I think it is altogether appropriate to note the history these two outstanding representatives have made today. We are a better country because of the active political participation of millions of American women, in this House and in elected positions all across this Nation.

We have 63 women Members in the House today. They represent millions of American. They fight hard for their constituents, and they serve with distinction.

Let me say to my good friend, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), as I welcome her to her new post as minority leader, we are going to have our fair share of disagreements. That is the nature of our two-party system. But together we must always find ways to make America a better and a more secure place to live.

I want to say to my colleagues, to the Speaker and to all of you that the work we do together in this 108th Congress.

To all Members of this House, I say thank you for giving me the great honor to serve once again as your Speaker.

As we stand here today, we leave behind the work of the historic 107th Congress. Some of the achievements of the 107th Congress were planned, others were thrust upon us by events. We enacted landmark education reform, far-reaching election reform, and we have completed work on the most significant tax relief in a generation.

But we are also confronted by the most brutal, the senseless, and most tragic attack on our citizens in our Nation’s history. The events of September 11, 2001, which we rememnbered in a historic commemorative session in New York City last fall, are still very much in our thoughts and in our prayers.

We ache for those we lost at the World Trade Tower, the Pentagon, and we give quiet thanks to those brave passengers on United Flight 93 who stopped the terrorists from crashing another plane into Washington, D.C. We sit in this Chamber knowing that it may very well have been the target for that ill-fated flight.

Just a few steps from here, on the central steps of this Capitol building, we stood together on September 11, 2001, which we rememnbered in a historic commemorative session in New York City last fall, are still very much in our thoughts and in our prayers.

We ache for those we lost at the World Trade Tower, the Pentagon, and we give quiet thanks to those brave passengers on United Flight 93 who stopped the terrorists from crashing another plane into Washington, D.C. We sit in this Chamber knowing that it may very well have been the target for that ill-fated flight.

Just a few steps from here, on the central steps of this Capitol building, we stood together on September 11, 2001, which we rememnbered in a historic commemorative session in New York City last fall, are still very much in our thoughts and in our prayers.

In this room, just a few days later, our President called us to action. And we did to give the President the tools he needed to fight those who engage in terrorism and those who harbor them.

Friends, our fellow Americans know that we are still engaged in that struggle today. Like generations before,
January 7, 2003

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

they know that freedom comes with a price. As we begin this new Congress, I want to say to the American people, we will keep that commitment we made on the steps of this Capitol on September 11, 2001. This Congress will do everything in its power to provide for the security of the American people. We are determined that it shall never happen here again.

The Members of this House who are returning can be proud of the legislation we passed to create a Department of Homeland Security, the most significant restructuring of the Federal Government in the last 50 years. It will help make this Nation more secure.

But the 108th Congress must build on the work of the last Congress. Having given birth to this new department, we must now nurture it and, with the leadership of our President, guide it to successful maturity. And as we build on the achievements of the 107th Congress, we must not forget the legacy of three dark days that decided or perhaps define the 107th Congress their last, and another who chose to step down from his leadership post as he considers other opportunities for public service.

Dick Armey and Dick Gephardt differed in their perceptions. The former majority leader and the former minority leader were often at odds on tax policy, debated vigorously on social policy, and presented competing visions for America. But they both loved this House. And they both loved the Rams. Members of this House who are returning can be proud of the work of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain that the executive branch is carrying out the will of the Congress. This select committee will be our eyes and ears as this critical period of our history unfolds.

Our Tax Code should help us compete on the world stage. But does it help or actually hurt job creation? Would it now make sense to a teacher the Tax Code simpler, smarter and less burdensome? As we work to make the economy stronger, we must also work to make our health care system better. We face a health care crisis in this country.

Forty-four million Americans are uninsured. Prescription drug costs are too high. Health care costs continue to skyrocket. We need to address all of these issues, and we need to do it quickly. No senior citizen should be forced to choose between putting food on the table or paying for the prescription drugs. No small business owner should have to risk going without health insurance for their children because the cost is too high. No baby boomer should be forced to decide whether she can afford to get health care when she gets sick. Our health care system is the best in the world. But it could be even better and more accessible to everyone.

Finally, last year we passed landmark education reform. The Leave No Child Behind Act was a good start to making our public schools the best in the world. But we still have much work to do. I taught at a public high school for 16 years. My wife taught public grade school for over 30 years. I know how tough, yet how rewarding teaching can be. There is no more noble profession than teaching. There is no better investment in the future of our Nation than education. Yet far too often our schools are not as good as they ought to be. Let us work together, as Republicans and Democrats, to improve our schools and support our teachers.

On this historic day, my mind turns to our most sacred political document, our Constitution. It is here that we, the Congress of the United States, are charged with a simple task: establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity. Never has that mission seemed so important and never has it seemed to be more threatened.

My colleagues, we have a sacred duty to perform. As the elected representatives of the American people, we must, along with our President, shoulder a great burden of responsibility. Today, we are jubilant in our celebration, and rightfully so. Enjoy this day with your family and your friends. But come back tomorrow with your sleeves rolled up,
because the task ahead is great and leadership is hard, steady work. You will be called upon to make many decisions over the next 2 years. Many will impact the economic well-being of your fellow Americans. Some may cause you to send our youth into harm’s way. There may be a search for how to do your job. Each of you must find your own way. Start by doing your job to the best of your ability. Represent your constituents with the noblest of motives. And always be true to the democratic values of this great institution. Let us be respectful of those with whom we disagree and make an effort to find the common ground. Let us keep before us our common goal, to find the common ground. Let us be mindful of our Creator and of our grandchildren when our work here is done.

As we begin this new 108th Congress, let us be mindful of our Creator and of His plans for this great country. May God bless this House of Representatives.

I recognize my good friend and colleague, the dean of the House of Representatives, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. Dingell); and he will administer the oath of the office of the Speaker.

Mr. Dingell then administered the oath of office to Mr. Hastert of Illinois, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which you are about to enter. So help you God.

Mr. Dingell. Congratulations. (Applause, the Members rising.)

SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS

The SPEAKER. According to the precedents, the Chair will swear in all Members of the House at this time.

If the Members will rise, the Chair will now administer the oath of office.

The Members-elect and Delegates-elect and the Resident Commissioner-elect rose, and the Speaker administered the oath of office to them as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter. So help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations. You are now Members of the 108th Congress.

MAJORITY LEADER

Ms. Pryce of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Republican Conference, I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as their majority leader the gentleman from Texas, the Honorable Tom DeLay.

MINORITY LEADER

Mr. Menendez. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, I have been directed to report to the House that Democratic Members have selected as minority leader the gentleman from California, the Honorable Nancy Pelosi.

MINORITY WHIP

Mr. Menendez. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, I have been directed to report to the House that the Democratic Members have elected as minority whip the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. Hoyer.

ELECTION OF CLERK OF THE HOUSE, SERGEANT AT ARMS, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, AND CHAPLAIN

Ms. Pryce of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 1) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 1

Resolved, That Jeffery J. Trandahl of the State of South Dakota, be, and is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That Wilson S. Livingood of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and is hereby, chosen Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives;

That James M. Eagen, III, of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, be, and is hereby, chosen Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives; and

That Father Daniel P. Coughlin of the State of Illinois, be, and is hereby, chosen Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Menendez. Mr. Speaker, I have an amendment to the resolution; but before offering the amendment, I request that there be a division of the question on the resolution so that we may have a separate vote on the chaplain.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to that portion of the resolution providing for the election of the Chaplain.

That portion of the resolution was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MENENDEZ

Mr. Menendez. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment to the remainder of the resolution offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. Pryce).

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. Menendez: For the Remainder of the House Resolution

That George Crawford of the state of California, be, and is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That Lorraine Miller of the state of Texas, be, and is hereby, chosen Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives; and

That Cecile Richards of the state of Texas, be, and is hereby, chosen Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Menendez).

The amendment was rejected.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the remainder of the resolution offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. Pryce).

The remainder of the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER. The Chair will now swear in the officers-elect of the House. Will they please come forward.

The officers-elect presented themselves at the bar of the House and took the oath of office as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take the obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office for which you are about to enter. So help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations.

NOTIFICATION TO THE SENATE

Mr. Delay. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 2) to inform the Senate that a quorum of the House has assembled and of the election of the Speaker and the Clerk, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 2

Resolved, That the Senate be informed that a quorum of the House of Representatives has assembled; that J. Dennis Hastert, a Representative from the State of Illinois, has been elected Speaker; and Jeffery J. Trandahl, a citizen of the State of South Dakota, has been elected Clerk of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Eighth Congress.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.