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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
July 13, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JEB BRADLEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

### MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 20, 2004, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 25 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate extend beyond 9:50 a.m.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

### RECOGNITION OF RETIRING REPUBLICAN DOUG BEREUTER

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was sorry that I was unable to join my colleagues last Thursday in saluting our departing Member, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER). He is everybody's model legislator. He is quiet and thoughtful, a serious man but with a light touch that sometimes one has to scratch the surface to reveal.

But he is, first and foremost, a policy maker, a policy maker by training, with a temperament and commitment to make things better within the limits and responsibilities of government. He represents a very exclusive cohort, he has graduate degrees from both the Harvard Graduate School of Design and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, who over 30 years ago was working in the heartland dealing with planning and promoting economic development for the State of Nebraska.

I think of him still as an intelligence officer with an insatiable quest for information and direct contact. He is a tireless worker on his various committees, always a full participant whether it is the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Committee on International Relations, or Committee on Financial Services, or some of the other activities that related to his work like the American Parliamentary Union. The list has been as extensive as it is impressive and important.

The gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) has always been someone in this chamber who understands how to make things happen, whether it is as a junior or a senior Member of this body, whether in the majority or the minority, he understood what it took to be an effective Member of Congress. He would push against political currents, willing to debate those who are more interested in ideology and politics than they are in understanding and representing the unique interests of the broad public.

He was willing to be unpopular with some in the political class but he struck a resonant chord for both Houses of Congress, in the media, with staff, and with Americans everywhere, but, most of all, election after election, in his home state of Nebraska.

It is also important to note that he understood how to work with the out-

standing men and women who are of his staff who make things happen. For over 26 years in his office, committees, interns and fellows, he helped launch hundreds of the best and brightest into careers in and out of government.

For 6 years it was my pleasure to work with him on a particular issue, reforming our Federal flood insurance program. Some may think it somewhat esoteric, but it had profound effects in terms of the Federal budget, the environment, and in the lives and livelihood of people who were unnecessarily at risk.

I must confess that I think I learned more about the legislative process working with the gentleman from Nebraska on this single bill than I did previously in law school and my own experience as a policy maker before coming to Congress. He is a master at his craft which is making public policy and bringing people together.

One of my colleagues referenced my notion that the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) is the glue that helps hold Congress together in occasionally fractious times.

One cannot reflect on his career without mentioning his spouse Louise, herself an educator and artist, in addition to playing the valuable role of congressional spouse.

It was my privilege to travel and share experiences with the Bereuters. I came to appreciate their insights into what a critical role is played by a congressional family. A life partner plays a critical role at home, with children, dealing with politics, providing their partner with insights and, generally, contributing to the well-being of this body.

We in Congress will miss them both, but our loss is good news for many because he and Louise relocate to the West Coast and look forward to assuming a new position as president of the Asia Foundation in September.

I know we all join in wishing them well and look forward to working with

□ 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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