

other bases around the country and emasculating the military. This is the wrong time.

I hope that our Members will look carefully at these recommendations and become a cosponsor of the resolution of disapproval that I have introduced today. I think when Members look at these recommendations they will see that they are flawed, they will see that this is not the right time, and I believe that when given the opportunity to really study these recommendations, Members will decide that this resolution of disapproval is the right thing to do and to send them back to the commission.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to cosponsor my resolution and to look at these recommendations and come to the same conclusion that I have come to.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Reverend Donald J. Young, Pastor, 12th Street Baptist Church, Gadsden, Alabama, offered the following prayer:

O God, we acknowledge You as giver and sustainer of life and through Your Son, Jesus Christ, provider of eternal life. We pray Your wisdom and Your guidance upon our leaders as they meet here today to deliberate on matters which affect not only here, but across the world.

We acknowledge Your blessings upon us and give thanks to You for Your care and watching over us. We thank You for the freedoms and liberties which have been given to us. Help us as we and others attempt to preserve them. We pray Your wisdom and leadership upon our President and the leaders of our Congress as they guide us during this time of national disaster. We pray for our fellow citizens who have been in harm's way and for those who care for them. We also ask Your watch and care for those serving in our place in the military across this world.

Help us to be generous not only in our prayers, but in our resources as well.

Guide all our leaders across this land during this difficult period in our history.

As Jesus taught us to pray in His model prayer: Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. BURGESS 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2862. An act making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3768. An act to provide emergency tax relief for persons affected by Hurricane Katrina.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendments to the bill (H.R. 2862) "An Act making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints from the Committee on Appropriations: Mr. SHELBY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BOND, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. BYRD, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DONALD J. YOUNG

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize our guest chaplain, the Reverend Donald J. Young. Reverend Young's life has been one of service to God and to his country.

After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1969, he joined the United States Army and served in Korea. When he left the Army in 1973, he worked in Illinois as a manager of Finance America. He could have had a long career for Finance America, lived

in Illinois and raised his family. Instead, he again answered a call to serve and entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, graduating from there in 1981. Since entering Seminary his service has taken him to communities in Virginia, in Florida, and most recently in the State of Alabama.

In 1995, he was an Associate Pastor of Education and Senior Adults at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Enterprise, Alabama. In 2002, he began serving in his present role as Minister of Education and Senior Adults at the 12th Street Baptist Church in Gadsden, Alabama. He and his wife have one daughter, Dawne, who resides in Orlando, Florida.

Reverend Young is joined today by his wife, Deborah, and several members of the 12th Street Baptist Church in Gadsden, along with several others from the Fourth Congressional District. I appreciate the prayer that Reverend Young has offered this afternoon. It is an honor to have him as our guest here in the United States House of Representatives.

TWO AMERICAN WARRIORS

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, in San Jacinto County in east Texas last Thursday, two men died trying to save another's life. Denny "Bo" Galloway, deputy constable, 34, died when he ran into the rough Trinity River trying to save Bernardo Vasquez, a 21-year-old Marine on leave from Iraq.

Vasquez had disappeared in the fast-moving river trying to save his uncle, who had gotten trapped in the current. Vasquez was to return to Active Duty today. His mother's only desire was that he return from Iraq alive. But Vasquez died saving another. Bo Galloway was a tough, rural cop who had spent the previous night rescuing people from a train wreck.

When hearing the 911 call about Vasquez, Galloway rushed to the scene and went directly into the river. Galloway died and left a wife and three sons behind. Both men were warriors. One fought the war on crime, one fought the war on terror. Both died responding to the first duty of all American warriors, saving those in trouble. We share in the grief of the two families and once again thank our people who wear the uniform of the soldier and of the peace officer.

ON THE PASSING OF SIMON WIESENTHAL

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

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, today the world lost Simon Wiesenthal, the

conscience of the Holocaust, who labored heroically for decades to make certain that history will not forget that nightmare nor let its perpetrators escape justice.

He did it, as he said, not just for Holocaust victims like himself, but for his grandchildren, for if one generation's criminals go unpunished, their descendants will conclude that they too can get away with murder.

Simon Wiesenthal was also a personal friend. He inspired my wife, Annette, in her efforts to gain recognition for another giant of righteousness, Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved the lives of tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews during the Nazi era.

Annette and I will miss our visits with Simon Wiesenthal, but he has left us a proud legacy through his vigilance, bravery, and commitment to justice.

REBUILDING THE RIGHT WAY

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

Mr. DELAY. Madam Speaker, last week President Bush spoke to the Nation from Jackson Square, New Orleans about his plans for the relief, recovery, and rebuilding of the gulf coast region and residents.

"There is no way to imagine America without New Orleans," he said. And there is no way to imagine the necessary recovery effort without the leadership and support of the Federal Government. Every dime that has been appropriated and every dime that will be appropriated from the Federal Treasury to the people of the gulf coast has come from the votes of the House of Representatives, and we are honored to have that opportunity.

And with this opportunity, Madam Speaker, comes a great responsibility to make sure that the money comes from and goes to the right places. Committees are already at work developing oversight plans for the Hurricane Katrina relief money, as are inspector general offices across the Federal Government.

Funds will be needed to rescue certain communities in Louisiana and Mississippi and we will have a moral and physical obligation to ensure it gets spent on the right priorities.

But just as important as our duty to ensure the money goes to the right places is our duty to ensure the money comes from the right places. Even before the levees were fixed and the flood waters started to recede, many voices were calling for massive tax increases to pay for the recovery effort.

Of course, most of these voices were calling for massive tax increases long before Katrina ever showed up on the Doppler radar, some since Ronald Reagan first asked Congress to lower them. The so-called Katrina tax hikes are not about Katrina, they are about tax hikes, and will only serve to bal-

loon the oversized, underresponsive energy management system that broke down 3 weeks ago in the wake of the hurricane.

The gulf coast region is today without an economy, without jobs or businesses or investment. Raising taxes will not help create any of those things, but will instead guarantee that the region's economic troubles spread to the rest of the country. We cannot allow that, and the President has already said he will not.

The challenge, then, to both sides of the aisle, is to find a way to pay for the recovery and rebuilding of New Orleans and the rest of the gulf coast without the tax hikes or without wasteful spending that we cannot afford.

WE NEED TO ROLL BACK THE TAX CUTS AND DEVELOP AN EXIT STRATEGY TO GET OUT OF IRAQ

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I want to agree with my good friend from Texas (Mr. DELAY) that we need to do everything we can to avoid any kind of tax hikes.

However, I think all Americans would expect that the top 1 percent of the income earners in this country, who receive most of the benefit from the administration's tax cuts, should have to give up some of their tax cuts in order to relieve the burden on the people in the gulf coast. It is only fair.

America can meet its responsibilities, but we are going to have to roll back those tax breaks that were given to the wealthiest Americans in order to help the least of our brethren.

We can also save money by planning an exit strategy out of Iraq. Wherever I go in my district, people say, get us out of Iraq. Well, it is time for us to have an exit strategy. That is what House Joint Resolution 55 is about, a bipartisan exit strategy.

We can do things to have the resources to take care of people in the gulf. But we first have to get out of the Persian Gulf. And we also have to get out of this thinking that says that tax cuts are somehow the way to economic recovery.

PROGRESS IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, Sunday's elections in Afghanistan are another example of progress in the global war on terrorism.

Millions of Afghans bravely defied terrorists, just as Iraqi voters did in January when they cast their ballots in the first free parliamentary elections in history. They are developing a

civil society which will prevent the spread of terrorism and help protect American families. Due to the strong resolve of President Bush and our troops, a spirit of freedom and democracy are spreading throughout the world.

Libya has terminated its nuclear weapons programs. Lebanon has resumed its democracy with the withdrawal of Syria. Indonesia has had its first free presidential elections. Egypt began multi-candidate elections. Pakistan has strengthened its ability to stop cross-border terrorism, and Kuwait now allows women to vote. Free elections in Ukraine.

Recently, leading terrorists were killed or captured in Algeria, Saudi Arabia, and even here in California. Over 20 years ago, Ronald Reagan advanced the idea of peace through strength. As we now witness the greatest spread of freedom in the history of the world, his vision is reality.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

SUCCESS OF THE TEXAS MEDICAL LIABILITY TRUST

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, just a little over 2 years ago Texas passed a constitutional amendment that allowed for caps on noneconomic damages in medical liability lawsuits. And what has been the experience in Texas over those 2 years?

Well, we have seen insurance and doctors come back to the State. Texas had gone from 17 down to two medical insurance companies, and now they are back up to 12. Not-for-profit hospitals have seen significant increases in the money that they are now able to invest in plants and equipment, money that otherwise would have gone for their self-insurance programs.

And perhaps most importantly, the rates of liability insurance for Texas doctors has come down. Texas Medical Liability Trust has reduced rates three times since the passage of House bill 4 and proposition 12, 12 percent in 2004, 5 percent in 2005, and now a recently announced 5 percent decrease in 2006, and, coupled with that, a 5 percent dividend rebate. So that now there is a total of 27 percent insurance savings for Texas doctors in medical liability.

Speaking to physicians of the Texas Medical Association just last weekend, Dr. Dennis Factor said, "Access to health care and the malpractice environment in Texas has made a healthy recovery since the Texas legislature passed medical liability reform."

I urge this body to take it up and get it done.

AMERICAN SPIRIT

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