

time my head I bow, becomes a Federal matter now. Our hair can be purple, orange or green, that is no offense, it is a freedom scene. The law is specific, the law is precise, only prayers spoken out loud are a serious vice.

"For praying in a public hall might offend someone with no faith at all, in silence alone we must meditate, God's name is prohibited by the State. We are allowed to cuss and dress like freaks, and pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks, they have outlawed guns but first the Bible.

"To quote the Good Book makes me liable. We can elect a pregnant senior queen, and the unwed daddy our senior king. It is inappropriate to teach right from wrong, we are taught that such judgments do not belong.

"We can get our condoms and birth control, study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles, but the Ten Commandments are not allowed. No word of God must reach this crowd. It is scary here I must confess, when chaos reins the school is a mess.

"So Lord this silent plea I make, should I be shot my soul please take."

Our Nation which used to lead the world in every arena now leads the world in these areas. Number one in violent crime. We are number one in divorce. We are number one in teenage pregnancies. We are number one in volunteer abortions. We are number one in illegal drug abuse. And we are number one in the industrialized world for illiteracy.

Alexis de Tocqueville, a great, young Frenchman, toured our country for 5 years. He wrote a great two-volume treatise on democracy, which is still a classic. And this is what he said. "In the United States, the influence of religion is not confined to the manners, but shapes the intelligence of the people. Christianity, therefore reigns without obstacle, by universal consequence. The consequence is, as I have before observed, that every principle in a moral world is fixed and enforced."

And this great quote. "I sought for the key to the greatness of and genius of America in her great harbors, her fertile fields and boundless forests, in her rich minds and vast world commerce, in her universal public school system and institutions of learning.

"I sought for it in her Democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution. But not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power."

He said, "America is great, because America is good. And if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

In 1963, Abraham Lincoln declared a National Day of Humiliation. And this is what he said. "We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven. We have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers and wealth and power, as no other Nation has ever

grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched us.

"And we have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our hearts that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace.

"Too proud to pray to the God that made us. It behooves us then to humble us ourselves before the offended power, to confess our national sins and to pray for clemency and forgiveness."

Abraham Lincoln understood that this was a new experiment that might not succeed. In the Gettysburg Address he says this. "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth in this continent a new Nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

That may sound very strange to us, and this should be unusual. But remember, they came from countries that had a king or an Emperor. "We are now engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that Nation or any Nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure."

We have forgotten from whence we came. Actually this generation has not forgotten, it never knew. I think, Mr. Speaker, that this great free country, the undisputed economic and military super power of the world is at risk if we have forgotten from whence we came.

Abraham Lincoln said this to our Nation, and I will close with this. We need to hear it again. "For all those who have died in all of our wars, it is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great tasks remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause to which they gave the last full measure of devotion, that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this Nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom."

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield back.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. FARR (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today until 3 p.m. on account of a death in the family.

Mr. BUYER (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of medical reasons.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. CAPPS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.  
Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mrs. CAPPS, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ALLEN, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.  
Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. MCGOVERN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. FOXX) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, February 5, 6, and 7.

Mr. WELDON of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FORTENBERRY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HULSHOF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MICA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LAMBORN, for 5 minutes, today.

#### BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reports that on January 30, 2007, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 188. To provide a new effective date for the applicability of certain provisions of law to Public Law 105-331.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 41, 110th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARE). Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 41, 110th Congress, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, February 5, 2007.

Thereupon (at 7 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 41, the House adjourned until Monday, February 5, 2007, at 2 p.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

475. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations; Annual Gasparilla Marine Parade, Hillsborough Bay, Tampa, FL [CGD 07-05-156] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received January 16, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

476. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; East Rockaway Inlet to Atlantic Beach Bridge, Nassau County, Long Island,