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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. POMEROY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC.

April 20, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable EARL POMEROY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, in whom all can take refuge, on this day of reflection and mourning for the victims and all those affected by the tragedy which took place on the campus of Virginia Tech, we appeal to Your boundless mercy and steadfast love.

The whole House of Representatives pulsates with compassion for the surviving student body, faculty and especially the parents of those young people now taken into Your eternal embrace.

May love conquer hatred. In Your infinite goodness heal the wounded, reinforce the bonds of relationships that hold Your people together.

Knowing how fragile life is and how precious the time we have together, enable all to draw closer to You and to one another in learning true wisdom, in affirming their deepest love and commitments and in reaching out to the alienated and those most in need.

We ask for Your help, Lord, calling upon Your holy name, now and forever. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PITTS 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 without amendment a bill of the House of the following title.

H.R. 1130. An act to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to extend the authority to withhold from public availability a financial disclosure report filed by an individual who is a judicial officer or judicial employee, to the extent necessary to protect the safety of that individual or a family member of that individual, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 378. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect judges, prosecutors, witnesses, victims, and their family members, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-286, the Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, and after consultation with the Republican Leader, appoints the following members to serve on the Con-

gressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China:

The Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL).

The Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK).

The Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH).

The Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain five 1-minute speeches per side.

HONORING COMMANDER CAROL BOHN, U.S. NAVY, RETIRED

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Commander Carol Bohn, U.S. Navy, retired.

Commander Bohn provided 25 years of outstanding service to our country as a commissioned officer in the Navy Nurse Corps and continues, in retirement, to provide exceptional service to our community and to our men and women in uniform.

A member of the VFW for approximately 15 years, Commander Bohn now serves as chaplain for the VFW Pleasanton Post 6298. She was instrumental in leading drives to obtain essential items for our Nation's troops, and her efforts have improved the morale of our men and women in uniform deployed overseas.

Commander Bohn is also instrumental in organizing Pleasanton's yearly Veterans Day Parade, which honors the many sacrifices made by our fighting men and women. Through Commander Bohn's tireless efforts, the

□ 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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