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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

Rev. Shawn L. Kumm, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Laramie, Wyoming, offered the following prayer:

Gracious, Heavenly Father, who is ever-watchful and attentive to the needs of this country and who has promised to "Satisfy us in the morning with Your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days," I implore You to provide for the people of this land honest and productive industry. Preserve us from famine, disasters, pestilence, and disease. Grant us courage and steadfastness in times of testing. Restrain unrest within and without our borders, and keep safe those who watch over and protect us at every level of life. Give us compassion and open hearts in times of want and need.

And finally, for this assembly who is charged with the responsibility of representing the people of this Nation, bestow wisdom and courage as laws are crafted and enacted.

To You, O Father, I give thanks and praise, with the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). 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.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not

present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. PERLMUTTER 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 agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 30. Concurrent resolution commending the Bureau of Labor Statistics on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 194 of title 14, United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101-595, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, and upon the recommendation of the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Coast Guard Academy:

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), from the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

The Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER), At Large.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 9355(a) of title 10,

United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Air Force Academy:

The Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), from the Committee on Appropriations.

The Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), At Large.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4355(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), from the Committee on Appropriations, and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), At Large, to the Board of Visitors of the United States Military Academy.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1295(b) of title 46, United States Code, as amended by Public Law 101-595, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, and upon the recommendation of the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Merchant Marine Academy:

The Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), from the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

The Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), At Large.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 6968(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the United States Naval Academy:

The Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), from the Committee on Appropriations.

The Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), designated by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

□ 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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HONORING PASTOR SHAWN KUMM,
GUEST CHAPLAIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mrs. LUMMIS. I rise in honor of today's guest chaplain, Pastor Shawn Kumm. He is joining us from Laramie, Wyoming, where he has served the congregation at the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church for 13 years.

Originally from Iowa, Pastor Kumm settled in Wyoming in 1996. He has held two offices in the Wyoming District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, first as secretary to the board of directors, followed by his nomination in 2003 to vice president of the synod, a position which he currently holds.

Pastor Kumm and his wife, Barbie, have two children, his son, Nickoli, and his daughter, Alexandra, who joins him here today.

Pastor Kumm has provided invaluable help to the members of his church and my constituency. I thank him for his positive impact, leadership, and service to the community and wish him the best as his congregation continues to grow with God's blessing.

I also want to acknowledge Representative JEFF FORTENBERRY, who joins me here today, and Pastor Kumm's parents, who reside in Representative FORTENBERRY's district.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches from each side of the aisle.

WMATA TRAGEDY

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, on Monday evening, as millions of Americans were making their daily commute home, tragedy struck in our Nation's Capital. The collision outside of the Fort Totten station in Northeast Washington, the worst in the 33-year history of Washington's Metro system, claimed the lives of nine people and left more than 80 injured.

Among those lost were Ana Fernandez of Hyattsville and Cameron Williams of Takoma Park from my State of Maryland. My heart and my thoughts, as I know all the Members' thoughts, are with the loved ones as well as all of those suffering the sudden loss caused by this tragedy.

Those include the family and friends of train operator, Jeanice McMillan, and passengers, Lavonda King, Mary Doolittle, Veronica Dubose, Dennis Hawkins and Ann Wherley and her husband, Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. Let me also extend my gratitude to

the first responders and medical professionals whose work at the scene was so critical in preventing further tragedies.

While the cause of this accident is unknown at this time, we do know this: The safety of our citizens is our highest priority, and we must take every precaution to make sure this loss of life does not occur again.

In the very near future, I will be joining with my colleagues from the region in introducing the final measure required to authorize \$3 billion in dedicated Federal and local funding for Metro. Millions and millions of tourists from throughout this Nation ride on this system as well as tens of thousands of the employees who work for this country.

We received formal notice from the Governors of Maryland and Virginia and the Mayor of the District of Columbia that the jurisdictions had amended the WMATA Compact to enable such funding just last week, and I hope we can move quickly to pass this legislation critical to meeting Metro's capital and maintenance needs. We don't know that that was the cause, but certainly it is a consideration.

Hundreds of thousands of people rely on Washington's Metro system every day, from the Federal employees who keep our Government running to the visitors from every corner of the country who come to our Nation's Capital. Let it be our tribute to those we mourn today to ensure America's subway is safe for all who use it.

I know my colleagues join me in expressing our sympathy and prayers to all those who were struck by tragedy the other night.

"WE ARE OUT OF MONEY"

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

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, our Government will attempt to borrow \$104 billion just this week, a world record. As Congress accelerates spending, Treasury has borrowed \$560 billion in January, \$707 billion in February, \$750 billion in March, \$665 billion in April, and \$773 billion in May.

To cover increased borrowing, the Fed is now electronically printing money to cover our debts. Their records show they have printed \$152.7 billion to cover our mounting debts.

We are quickly running out of other people's money. Printing dollars electronically will accelerate inflation next year.

Remember, inflation is the enemy of senior citizens on a fixed income. President Obama was right when he said, "We are out of money." Our policies here in the Congress should reflect that sober assessment.

CARBON OFFSETS WILL BENEFIT
POLLUTERS

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Science tells us we must begin to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions in the next 5 to 10 years. But according to an analysis by offsets expert and Stanford law professor Michael Wara, it is possible that we could see no reduction of CO₂ emissions until the year 2040 because of offsets and unlimited banking of allowances in the new energy and environment bill.

The bill allows 2 billion tons of carbon dioxide a year, roughly equivalent to 30 percent of all U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Supporters of the bill point out that coal use will increase by 2020 because electric utilities will continue to use dirty coal, the prime source of pollution.

With 2 billion tons of offsets per year, we are told that electric utilities will reduce carbon emissions at places other than their generating plants so they really don't have to actually decrease their emissions, and coal-fired CO₂ emissions will increase through 2025. No wonder there are 26 active coal plant applications. Increased CO₂ emissions will be our gift to the next generation? Apparently the planet is not melting. With this bill, it is just getting better—for polluters.

□ 1015

REFORM HEALTH CARE THE
RIGHT WAY

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

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, from today, the ABC network will be known as the "All Barack Channel" due to unprecedented propaganda for the President's health plan.

Democrats and Republicans agree that our health care system needs reforming, and we essentially agree on how, with one very important exception: a government-run plan is not the solution.

Our current Medicare system is a microcosm of what the proposed public plan would look like. Medicare is propped up by the privately insured as it is, and is still on a course for bankruptcy within 10 years.

Our President says he can make a government-run system lower cost. Then why hasn't anybody been able to do that with Medicare in 50 years? Creating a public option like Medicare will progressively increase private insurance costs due to cost shifting and eventually drive private insurers out of business. Besides the damage it would do to the private sector, the government does not have the money to pay the \$1.6 trillion price tag.

As a physician, I say we need to reform, bring down costs, and increase access to private insurance. We do not