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No. 176

## House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
December 1, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JESSE L. JACKSON, Jr. 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: Seasonal cold winds and the hesitancy to name deep-seated fears draw us inward, Lord God.

It is time for outdoor furniture and some plants to be brought inside. Oil and gas are no longer for movement away from hard realities, but remain costly for the comforts of home. Barren trees silhouette some loneliness as family values take priority.

Be with us, Lord, as the stripping winter approaches. Clothe us anew with the garment of hope as we prepare for Your future coming of more light, integrity, and peace.

For You are Lord of all and in all. So we repeatedly call 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 Maryland (Mr. HOYER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HOYER 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.

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 23, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*The Speaker, The Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 23, 2009, at 9:26 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 214.

Appointments:  
Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission  
With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,  
*Clerk of the House.*

### HONORING ABE POLLIN

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, our Capital City is mourning the death of one of its leading citizens, a man I was proud to call my friend: Abe Pollin. Our thoughts and sympathy are with his wife, Irene, and his sons, Robert and Jim.

Abe Pollin's business skill, his philanthropy, and his civic spirit changed

Washington, D.C., for the better; and, indeed, his legacy extends far beyond this city. It is a legacy that will long outlive Abe Pollin himself, but I rise today to honor the man behind it.

Abe was the son of a Russian immigrant who came to this country speaking no English, and he rose to become one of this city's most successful developers.

He was a boy whose fondest memories were of paying 25 cents to sit in the bleachers at Washington Senators games. And even when he had brought basketball and hockey teams to Washington, he kept his childhood passion for sports.

The same work ethic that sent him to local railroad yards at 4 in the morning to buy supplies for his father's contracting business helped make him a fortune building housing for thousands. For some that would have been enough, but for Abe it was only the beginning.

Like his father, Morris, whose generosity earned him the nickname "Charity" in the Washington Jewish community, Abe Pollin has a proud place in the great American and Jewish traditions of philanthropy. There are thousands and thousands who owe him thanks, whether or not they knew him firsthand. They are sons and daughters of 9/11 victims whose education Abe helped pay for, D.C. families who live in affordable housing that Abe built.

Speaking in 1997 of the arena that was the centerpiece of Washington's downtown rebirth, Abe said this:

"I walk through that building and I get tears in my eyes. I've got everything I've ever done in my life on the line."

It was his money that paid to build that arena.

"My advisers think I'm nuts. But I wanted to do something special for my town."

Indeed, Abe Pollin's life was something special for this town, for sports

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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