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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Pastor Bob MacGregor, City Harvest Church, Vancouver, Washington, offered the following prayer:

Lord, we come today with thanksgiving for the work of Your grace in establishing this at work called America.

Known around the world as the Nation of opportunity, many fight to become a part of us and few desire to leave because You, Lord, have made us great.

Our Founding Fathers understood this by experience and by the Scriptures "that except the Lord builds the House, they labor in vain who build it." So it has been our deep conviction from our conception to daily appeal to You for wisdom to guide the leaders of this great Nation.

So, once again, we ask for the wisdom to protect all our citizens, provide opportunity for all, help our poor, care for our elderly, secure our families, educate our children, and make our economy strong.

We pray for unity in this endeavor. May righteousness exalt us through all our laws. This we ask respectfully in Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. 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. 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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. Will the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. KELLY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi 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.

WELCOMING PASTOR BOB MACGREGOR

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to introduce my pastor and dear friend, Bob MacGregor, as our guest chaplain this morning.

Pastor Bob is the lead pastor of City Harvest Church in Vancouver, Washington, my home church. City Harvest is a thriving church that greatly impacts our community by caring for the needy and supporting mission work.

Pastor Bob and his wife, Sue, have four daughters and eight grandchildren. They have been married for 38 years and share a burden to help build marriages and families of ministers who face the demands of ministry life.

It is my great pleasure to welcome Pastor Bob and thank him as he has blessed us this morning with his prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON WAS TRULY THE BEST OF THE BEST

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

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I am humbled today to rise in memory of Army Sergeant First Class Christopher Lee Robinson. He paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our Nation on March 25, 2006, during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Sergeant Robinson was wounded during an ambush in Helmand province, Afghanistan, while conducting joint and multinational combat operations. Master Sergeant Reese Robbins, his friend, was also wounded during the attack. At the time of his death, Sergeant Robinson was the first Mississippi National Guard soldier to die in Afghanistan.

Sergeant Robinson was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group, Mississippi Army National Guard in Jackson, Mississippi. He followed in the footsteps of his father, George Robinson, who also served in the Army.

Retired Sergeant Major Mike Patterson served with Sergeant Robinson throughout most of his military career. Sergeant Major Patterson said Sergeant Robinson consistently displayed

□ 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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