

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has not yielded. The gentleman from California is recognized.

Custody of the Mace

§ 15.13 By unanimous consent, the House considered and adopted a resolution authorizing the Sergeant-at-Arms to deliver the mace of the House to the Smithsonian Institution for repairs during a period of adjournment.

On July 27, 2006,⁽⁷⁷⁾ the following resolution was considered and agreed to:

Mr. [John] BOEHNER [of Ohio]. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 957) and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved,

SECTION 1. REPAIR OF MACE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(a) DELIVERY FOR REPAIR.—The Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed, on behalf of the House of Representatives, to deliver the mace of the House of Representatives, following an adjournment of the House pursuant to concurrent resolution, to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution only for the purpose of having necessary repairs made to the mace and under such circumstances as will assure that the mace is properly safeguarded.

(b) RETURN.—The mace shall be returned to the House of Representatives before noon on the day before the House next reconvenes pursuant to concurrent resolution or at any sooner time when so directed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽⁷⁸⁾ Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

§ 16. The Chaplain

The Chaplain of the House is a unique position within the House of Representatives. The Chaplain is an elected officer of the House, but unlike other officers, the Chaplain is chosen on a nonpartisan basis. The Chaplain is also the only officer of the House mentioned in the standing rule regarding the daily order of business: pursuant to clause 1 of rule XIV,⁽¹⁾ the first

77. 152 CONG. REC. 16167, 109th Cong. 2d Sess. For similar examples, see 120 CONG. REC. 35740, 93d Cong. 2d Sess. (Oct. 16, 1974); 130 CONG. REC. 9514, 98th Cong. 2d Sess. (Apr. 12, 1984); 137 CONG. REC. 21444, 102d Cong. 1st Sess. (Aug. 2, 1991); 138 CONG. REC. 687–88, 102d Cong. 2d Sess. (Jan. 28, 1992); and 147 CONG. REC. 15759, 107th Cong. 1st Sess. (Aug. 2, 2001).

78. Thomas Feeney (FL).

1. *House Rules and Manual* § 869 (2019).

item of business on any legislative day is the prayer offered by the Chaplain.⁽²⁾

The role of the Chaplain is not specifically addressed by House rules. Unlike other officers of the House, whose responsibilities are addressed at length in the standing rules, the Chaplain has but one duty: pursuant to clause 5 of rule II,⁽³⁾ the Chaplain “shall offer a prayer at the commencement of each day’s sitting of the House.” While the rules are silent with respect to other responsibilities, the Chaplain of the House is available to offer spiritual and pastoral guidance to Members and staff, participates in a variety of ceremonial functions,⁽⁴⁾ and arranges for guest chaplains to offer the opening prayer on certain days. The Chaplain is considered a full-time employee of the House and thus receives a full-time salary.⁽⁵⁾

History

The House first appointed a “Chaplain to Congress on the part of the House” on May 1, 1789.⁽⁶⁾ The early practice of Congress was for the House and Senate to each appoint a chaplain, and the two chaplains would then rotate between the two chambers.⁽⁷⁾ During the 1850s, this tradition was discontinued,⁽⁸⁾ and by 1857 the practice of appointing a chaplain at all was suspended.⁽⁹⁾ In the 1860s, the House once again established the position of Chaplain—this time as an elected officer of the House.⁽¹⁰⁾

Election and Resignation

For over a century, the Chaplain has been chosen on a nonpartisan basis. As described elsewhere,⁽¹¹⁾ the majority and minority parties will each advance a slate of nominees for the various officer positions of the House. The only exception is the position of Chaplain, which is negotiated by the parties in advance so that the House can express a unanimous choice.

Procedurally, this unanimous nonpartisan vote on the Chaplain is accomplished via a division of the question. A Member requests that the resolution electing officers of the House be divided between the Chaplain and the

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2. For the precedence of the prayer with respect to other matters, see Deschler’s Precedents Ch. 21 §§ 2.1–2.3. See also § 16.8, *infra* and Deschler’s Precedents Ch. 6 §§ 21.1–21.4.
 3. *House Rules and Manual* § 665 (2019).
 4. See, e.g., Deschler’s Precedents Ch. 36 § 6.1.
 5. See § 16.6, *infra*.
 6. 1 ANNALS OF CONG. 242, 1st Cong. 1st Sess.
 7. Even by 1817, this weekly interchange of chaplains was described as “in accordance with old custom.” 1 Hinds’ Precedents § 275.
 8. 1 Hinds’ Precedents §§ 277–279.
 9. 1 Hinds’ Precedents § 274.
 10. 1 Hinds’ Precedents § 273 (election of the Chaplain presents a question of privilege).
 11. See § 13, *supra*. See also Precedents (Wickham) Ch. 3 § 2.

other officers. A vote is then taken on the election of the Chaplain only (typically a voice vote, with no Member objecting to the election). The remaining officers are then elected on a partisan basis, with the minority party's slate of candidates (embodied in an amendment in the nature of a substitute) rejected and the majority party's slate of candidates chosen instead. Following his or her election, the Chaplain is administered the oath of office⁽¹²⁾ taken by all officers of the House.⁽¹³⁾

The Office of the Chaplain may become vacant at any point during a Congress, most often due to the resignation (or death) of the Chaplain.⁽¹⁴⁾ If the office becomes vacant, House leadership will generally begin the process of selecting a new Chaplain, which typically involves consultation with the minority party. The House then elects a Chaplain to fill the vacancy via a simple House resolution.⁽¹⁵⁾ Pursuant to statute,⁽¹⁶⁾ the Speaker of the House may appoint a temporary Chaplain if the office becomes vacant,⁽¹⁷⁾ but only the House may fill the vacancy on a permanent basis.

The resignation of the Chaplain is subject to acceptance by the House, and, once accepted, the resignation cannot be withdrawn.⁽¹⁸⁾ The House has voted to give retiring Chaplains the title of "Chaplain Emeritus"—a unique designation among elected House officers.⁽¹⁹⁾ The House has authorized compilations of the Chaplain's prayers to be printed for the public.⁽²⁰⁾

Although other officers may be removed unilaterally by the Speaker pursuant to clause 1 of rule II,⁽²¹⁾ the Chaplain may not.

Guest Chaplains

The Chaplain of the House frequently invites other religious figures to offer the daily prayer at the commencement of a legislative day. Often, it is a Member of the House who suggests and sponsors a guest chaplain to

12. 2 U.S.C. § 3331.

13. But see 1 Hinds' Precedents § 280 (early practice where the Chaplain did not take the oath).

14. See § 16.5, *infra*. See also Deschler's Precedents Ch. 37 § 10.2.

15. See 157 CONG. REC. 7885, 112th Cong. 1st Sess. (May 25, 2011).

16. 2 U.S.C. § 5501.

17. See § 16.3, *infra*.

18. *Parliamentarian's Note*: On one occasion, the Speaker prospectively appointed the person who had resigned as Chaplain to fill the vacancy caused by that person's prospective resignation. See § 16.3, *infra*. For a similar situation involving the Sergeant-at-Arms, see Deschler's Precedents Ch. 6 § 22.3.

19. 6 Cannon's Precedents § 31. For tributes to a retiring House Chaplain, see § 16.21, *infra*. See also Deschler's Precedents Ch. 38 §§ 5.18, 5.20.

20. See § 16.20, *infra*. See also Deschler's Precedents Ch. 6 § 21.5.

21. *House Rules and Manual* § 640 (2019).

perform this duty. The sponsoring Member is typically recognized after the prayer to introduce the guest chaplain to the House. A guest chaplain has accompanied the Chaplain on opening day of a new Congress.⁽²²⁾ In the temporary absence of the Chaplain, others have delivered the prayer, including Members and House staff.⁽²³⁾

Litigation

The constitutionality of legislative bodies employing a chaplain has been the subject of litigation over the years, including litigation involving the House Chaplain. In a 1983 Court of Appeals case, a challenge was raised regarding the employment of a House Chaplain, but the court held that such employment did not violate the Establishment Clause of the first amendment to the Constitution.⁽²⁴⁾ In response to the litigation, the House adopted a privileged resolution articulating its position on the constitutionality of the Office of the Chaplain.⁽²⁵⁾ A subsequent case involved an atheist who was denied an opportunity to offer a secular invocation as guest chaplain. The Federal court dismissed the lawsuit, stating that “the legislative prayer practice of the House is consistent” with court decisions and the rules of the House, and that the individual failed to state a claim.⁽²⁶⁾

Selection of the Chaplain

§ 16.1 The privileged resolution electing the officers of the House is customarily divided so that the House may conduct a separate vote on the election of the Chaplain.

On January 15, 1979,⁽²⁷⁾ there being no minority party candidate for the position of Chaplain and the Chaplain having been recommended by a bipartisan committee informally appointed by the Speaker in the prior Congress, the following resolution was considered:

ELECTION OF CLERK OF THE HOUSE, SERGEANT AT ARMS, DOORKEEPER,
POSTMASTER, AND CHAPLAIN

Mr. [Thomas] FOLEY [of Washington]. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 1) and ask for its immediate consideration.

22. See § 16.13, *infra*. A Member-elect has also given the prayer on opening day of a new Congress in lieu of the Chaplain. See § 16.15, *infra*.

23. See, *e.g.*, §§ 16.14–16.19, *infra*. See also Deschler’s Precedents Ch. 6 §§ 21.7–21.9.

24. *Murray v. Buchanan*, 720 F.2d 689 (D.C. Cir. 1983). The court cited an earlier case regarding the legislature of Nebraska as controlling authority. See *Marsh v. Chambers*, 463 U.S. 783 (1983).

25. See H. Res. 413, 128 CONG. REC. 5890, 97th Cong. 2d Sess. (Mar. 30, 1982).

26. *Barker v. Conroy*, 282 F. Supp. 3d 346 (D.D.C. 2017). This ruling was affirmed at the appellate level. *Barker v. Conroy*, 921 F.3d 1118 (D.C. Cir. 2019).

27. 125 CONG. REC. 6–7, 96th Cong. 1st Sess. For a typical resolution electing House officers, see § 13.1, *supra*.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1

Resolved, That Edmund L. Henshaw, Jr., of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That Kenneth R. Harding, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives;

That James T. Molloy, of the State of New York, be, and he is hereby, chosen Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives;

That Robert V. Rota, of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, be, and he is hereby, chosen Postmaster of the House of Representatives.

That Reverend James David Ford, of the State of New York, be, and he is hereby, chosen Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

Mr. [John] ANDERSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I shall offer a substitute for the resolution just offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. FOLEY), but before offering the substitute, I request that there be a division of the question on the resolution so that we may have a separate vote on the Office of Chaplain.

The SPEAKER.⁽²⁸⁾ The question is on agreeing to the portion of the resolution providing for the election of the Chaplain.

That portion of the resolution was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. EDWARDS OF ALABAMA AS A SUBSTITUTE
FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE RESOLUTION

Mr. [Jack] EDWARDS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment as a substitute for the remainder of the resolution.

The Clerk read the substitute amendment, as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. Edwards of Alabama as a substitute for the remainder of House Resolution 1:

Resolved, That Joe Bartlett, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That Walter P. Kennedy, of the State of New Jersey, be, and he is hereby, chosen Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives;

That Tommy Lee Winebrenner, of the State of Indiana, be, and he is hereby, chosen Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives;

That Ronald W. Lasch, of the State of New Jersey, be, and he is hereby, chosen Postmaster of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the substitute amendment offered by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. EDWARDS).

The substitute amendment was rejected.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the resolution offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. FOLEY).

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER. Will the officers elected present themselves in the well of the House?

The officers-elect presented themselves at the bar of the House and took the oath of office.

28. Thomas O'Neill (MA).

§ 16.2 The Speaker has risen from the floor to a question of personal privilege under rule IX⁽²⁹⁾ in order to address concerns regarding the process for selecting a new Chaplain.

On March 23, 2000,⁽³⁰⁾ Speaker Dennis Hastert of Illinois rose to a question of personal privilege regarding the selection of a new Chaplain:

PERSONAL PRIVILEGE—SELECTION OF HOUSE CHAPLAIN

Mr. [Dennis] HASTERT [of Illinois]. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of personal privilege.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽³¹⁾ Based on press accounts examined by the Chair, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT) is recognized for 1 hour on a question of personal privilege.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I come to this well today following a long period of prayerful consideration. I want to talk to you about the choice of our next Chaplain, a man whose job it is to ask God's blessing on our work. . . .

Daniel Coughlin is a Catholic. That does not make him more nor less qualified for the job. But I am proud of his historic appointment. I hope his appointment will help us to heal and that it will bring a sense of pride to the millions of Catholic men and women around this country who have had legitimate feelings of past discrimination which some in this House have sought to manipulate.

I urge all of my colleagues to get to know Father Coughlin. He is a good man who will provide this House with spiritual guidance and counseling support necessary to bring us together again. Let me say to every leader of this House and to every Member of this House: let us embrace our new Chaplain, put this episode behind us, and move forward to do the people's business.

Prospective Appointment of the Chaplain

§ 16.3 The Chaplain may resign the position prospectively, and where a vacancy exists in the Office of the Chaplain, the Speaker may, pursuant to statute,⁽³²⁾ appoint a temporary replacement prospectively.⁽³³⁾

29. *House Rules and Manual* § 698 (2019).

30. 146 CONG. REC. 3478–82, 106th Cong. 2d Sess. See also 146 CONG. REC. 1838, 106th Cong. 2d Sess. (Mar. 1, 2000) and 146 CONG. REC. 5460, 106th Cong. 2d Sess. (Apr. 12, 2000).

31. Ray LaHood (IL).

32. 2 U.S.C. § 5501.

33. *Parliamentarian's Note*: On April 16, 2018, a letter of prospective resignation of Chaplain Patrick Conroy was laid before the House and accepted by unanimous consent. Once the House has accepted the letter of resignation of an officer, it cannot be withdrawn. The letter stated a date of May 24, 2018 as the last day of service by Chaplain Conroy, thus creating a prospective vacancy in the Office of the Chaplain. On May 3, 2018, Chaplain Conroy sent a letter directly to Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, rescinding his resignation. Speaker Ryan then announced that he would restore Chaplain

On April 16, 2018,⁽³⁴⁾ a letter of prospective resignation from the Chaplain was laid before the House and accepted by unanimous consent:

RESIGNATION AS CHAPLAIN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. [Clay] HIGGINS of Louisiana) laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 15, 2018.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker, U.S. Capitol.

DEAR PAUL, the Peace of Christ! As you have requested, I hereby offer my resignation as the 60th Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives. It has been an honor to serve the People's House for these nearly seven years. After mutual consideration, it is determined my final day will be 24 May 2018.

The position is one which I did not seek nor strive to assume, but I have seen it as a blessing and I have considered it one of the great privileges of my life.

I wish all the best for the House of Representatives, and for your upcoming search for a worthy successor in the Office of the Chaplain.

Sincerely,

PATRICK J. CONROY, S.J.,
Chaplain.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.
There was no objection.

Then on May 8, 2018,⁽³⁵⁾ pursuant to law,⁽³⁶⁾ Speaker Paul Ryan prospectively appointed Father Patrick Conroy to temporarily fill the vacancy of Chaplain of the House of Representatives, effective Friday, May 25, 2018:⁽³⁷⁾

APPOINTMENT OF CHAPLAIN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER.⁽³⁸⁾ Pursuant to the provisions of section 208(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 5501(a)), the Chair appoints Father Patrick J. Conroy

Conroy to his post. For resolutions presented as questions of privilege under rule IX, calling for the creation of a select committee to investigate the actions of the Speaker regarding the resignation of the Chaplain, see H. Res. 856, 164 CONG. REC. H3726, H3727 [Daily Ed.], 115th Cong. 2d Sess. (Apr. 27, 2018) and H. Res. 878, 164 CONG. REC. H3823, H3824 [Daily Ed.], 115th Cong. 2d Sess. (May 8, 2018).

34. See 164 CONG. REC. H3329 [Daily Ed.], 115th Cong. 2d Sess. (Apr. 16, 2018).

35. 164 CONG. REC. 3787, 115th Cong. 2d Sess.

36. 2 U.S.C. § 5501.

37. *Parliamentarian's Note*: The act of appointing a person to fill the vacancy in the office of an elected officer created by that person's resignation is documented in the precedents. On June 30, 1972, Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma appointed Zeake W. Johnson, Jr. to fill the vacancy in the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms caused by Mr. Johnson's own resignation. See Deschler's Precedents Ch. 6 § 22.3 and Deschler's Precedents Ch. 37 § 9.2.

38. Paul Ryan (WI).

of the State of Oregon to act as and to exercise temporarily the duties of Chaplain of the House of Representatives, effective Friday, May 25, 2018.

Will Father Conroy please come forward and take the oath of office.

Father Conroy appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

Retirement of the Chaplain

§ 16.4 The Speaker and the Minority Leader announced to the House the retirement of the House Chaplain at the end of a Congress.

On October 14, 1978,⁽³⁹⁾ the following occurred:

The House met at 12 o'clock noon.

The Chaplain, Rev. Edward O. Latch, D.D., offered the following prayer:

*Well done, good and faithful servant * * * enter into the joy of your Lord.*—Matthew 25:21. . . .

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER REGARDING RETIREMENT OF THE CHAPLAIN, REV. EDWARD G. LATCH, D.D.

The SPEAKER.⁽⁴⁰⁾ May the Chair make reference to the fact that Rev. Edward Latch, who has been the Chaplain of the House for many years, and whose talents we have all appreciated, is retiring at the end of the Congress and this very well may be his last day here.

On behalf of his colleagues and himself, the Chair wants to state to Dr. Latch that we have enjoyed his beautiful prayers and the manner in which he has conducted himself as an officer of the House of Representatives and that our undying thanks, love, and affection go with him as he leaves to take up a new life in retirement. We hope that his retirement will be a period of great happiness and contentment.

Without objection, all Members may revise and extend their remarks on the subject of the retirement of Dr. Latch.

The Chair now recognizes the minority leader, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RHODES).

Mr. [John] RHODES [of Arizona]. I appreciate the Speaker yielding to me and I, too, want to join the Speaker and the other Members of the House in extending our respects, our thanks, and our best wishes to our well-beloved Chaplain. Dr. Latch. He has served this House and its Members beyond the real capabilities of any ordinary human being. We will miss him terribly but we wish him and his good wife the best of everything as

39. 124 CONG. REC. 38090, 95th Cong. 2d Sess.

40. Thomas O'Neill (MA).

they go into their retirement and assure them that they leave many friends behind in the House of Representatives who hope to see them often in the future.

So, God bless you, Dr. Latch.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. May the Chair make the following announcement:

The leadership has known of Dr. Latch's retirement for some time and about 4 or 5 months ago the Chair appointed a committee, headed by the gentleman from Texas, Mr. MAHON, as chairman, the gentleman from Texas, Mr. WRIGHT, and the gentleman from Arizona, Mr. RHODES, as members of that committee. The committee has been diligent and yesterday they made their recommendation as to whom they thought the incoming Chaplain should be, and their recommendation will be presented at the caucuses on both sides when they meet in December, to take effect the first of the year.

Resignation of the Chaplain

§ 16.5 The House may retroactively accept the resignation of the Chaplain.

On May 25, 2011,⁽⁴¹⁾ the following resignation of Fr. Daniel Coughlin was retroactively accepted by the House:

RESIGNATION AS CHAPLAIN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 15, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: During the past eleven years, it has been my distinct honor to serve as Chaplain of the House of Representatives. It has been a true blessing for me to come to know you, Members of Congress through the years, and so many dedicated Staff personnel who have come to the Capital to serve this nation with their daily labor and sincerity of heart.

In my duties as Chaplain I have tried to be present to all and listen to their needs. Hopefully I have offered them guidance when sought, counsel when requested and strength in difficult times. I have learned compassion for them and their families. My greatest joy has been to lead people in the Chamber and across the nation in prayer.

It is now time for me to retire. I hope you will accept my resignation as Chaplain to be effective on Saturday, April 30, 2011.

I trust you will convey to all the Members of the House my continued esteem for their efforts to shape laws and policies for the common good of the American people and for

41. 157 CONG. REC. 7884–85, 112th Cong. 1st Sess.

a better and peaceful world. I thank you and all for the kindness, patience and friendship extended to me. Certainly I do remember all of you in my daily prayer until the end of my days.

With gratitude to you and Almighty God,

REVEREND DANIEL P. COUGHLIN,
Chaplain.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽⁴²⁾ Without objection, the resignation of Father Daniel P. Coughlin as Chaplain, effective April 30, 2011, is accepted.

There was no objection.

Salary, Compensation

§ 16.6 By unanimous consent, the House considered and agreed to a resolution establishing the salary of the Chaplain.

On January 15, 1979,⁽⁴³⁾ the following resolution was adopted:⁽⁴⁴⁾

COMPENSATION OF CHAPLAIN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. [James] WRIGHT [of Texas]. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 7) and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

H. RES. 7

Resolved, The compensation of the Chaplain of the House of Representatives shall be equivalent to the highest rate of basic pay as in effect from time to time of level IV of the Executive Schedule in section 5315 of title V, United States Code.

The SPEAKER.⁽⁴⁵⁾ Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Offering of Prayer After Overnight Recess

§ 16.7 Pursuant to clause 5 of rule II,⁽⁴⁶⁾ the Chaplain offers the prayer daily at the beginning of each legislative day, and may also offer a prayer following an overnight recess of the House.⁽⁴⁷⁾

42. John Campbell (CA).

43. 125 CONG. REC. 17, 96th Cong. 1st Sess. For statutory authority regarding the compensation of the Chaplain, see 2 U.S.C. § 5521.

44. *Parliamentarian's Note*: This represented the first time that the Chaplain of the House was to be compensated as a full-time employee.

45. Thomas O'Neill (MA).

46. *Parliamentarian's Note*: On returning from a recess of an overnight duration or longer, the House sometimes resumes its proceedings with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance. See, e.g., 141 CONG. REC. 37310, 104th Cong. 1st Sess. (Dec. 18, 1995).

47. *House Rules and Manual* § 665 (2019).

On December 20, 1974,⁽⁴⁸⁾ the Chaplain offered a prayer at the expiration of an overnight recess:

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 9 o'clock a.m., Friday, December 20, 1974.

The Chaplain, Rev. Edward G. Latch, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Glory to God in the highest and on Earth peace, good will toward men.—Luke 2:14.

O God, to whom glory is sung in the highest, while on Earth peace is proclaimed to men of good will, grant that good will to us that we may make a worthy contribution to the life of our day.

§ 16.8 Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the House stood in recess for over 24 hours, and upon reconvening to continue the same legislative day, the Chaplain offered another prayer.

On September 11, 2001,⁽⁴⁹⁾ the House convened as the Capitol was being evacuated, and following the Chaplain's prayer, the Chair declared the House in recess:

The House met at 9 a.m.



AFTER RECESS

The House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOSS) at 9 o'clock and 52 minutes a.m., thereby terminating the recess.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽⁵⁰⁾ Due to the circumstances of today, the Chair calls the House to order at this time.

The prayer will be offered by the guest chaplain.



PRAYER

The Reverend Gerard Creedon, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, offered the following prayer:

God of peace and life, send Your spirit to heal our country; bring consolation to all injured in today's tragedy in New York and Washington. Protect us and help our leaders to lead us out of this moment of crisis to a new day of peace. Amen.

48. 120 CONG. REC. 41772, 93d Cong. 2d Sess.

49. 147 CONG. REC. 16752, 107th Cong. 1st Sess.

50. Porter Goss (FL).

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House will stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair, pursuant to clause 12 of rule I.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 53 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

On the calendar day of September 12, 2001,⁽⁵¹⁾ the House resumed its proceedings of the legislative day of September 11, 2001 with a prayer:

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 10 o'clock and 3 minutes a.m.

PRAYER

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

O God, come to our assistance.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Yesterday we were stunned, angry and violated. Today, Lord, we stand strong and together. Yesterday changed our world. Today we are changed.

We have humbly prayed to You, O Lord God of Heaven and Earth, yesterday and through the night. Now we turn to You for Your guidance and sense of eternal truths which built this Nation as we begin a new day of building security and peace through justice.

We mourn our dead and reach out with prayer and acts of compassion to all those families splattered with blood and exhausted by tears. Heal the wounded. Strengthen all civil servants, medical and religious leaders as they attempt to fill the gaping holes left in the fabric of our Nation.

Send forth Your Holy Spirit, Lord, upon all the Members of Congress, the President, and all government leaders across this Nation. Free them of fear, any prejudice whatsoever, remove all doubt and confusion from their minds. With clear insight which comes from You and You alone, reveal all that is unholy, and renew the desire of Your people to lives of deepening faith, unbounding commitment, and lasting freedom here where liberty has made her home.

We place our trust in You now and forever. Amen.

§ 16.9 In response to a parliamentary inquiry, the Chair stated that under the rules and precedents, the prayer is offered only at the commencement of the legislative day or following a recess of the House, and that the Chair would decline to recognize a unanimous-consent request to conduct a prayer where the House remained in continuous session.

On April 22, 1985,⁽⁵²⁾ the following occurred:

51. 147 CONG. REC. 16752, 107th Cong. 1st Sess.

52. 131 CONG. REC. 8751, 8753–54, 8756, 99th Cong. 1st Sess.

THE INDIANA ELECTION DISPUTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽⁵³⁾ Without objection, the gentleman from Florida is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. [Eugene] SHAW [of Florida]. I yield back to the gentleman from Maine to continue his very fine statement.

Mr. [John] McKERNAN [of Maine]. I thank the gentleman from Florida. I think it is important that we realize that we are not . . .

Mr. [Andrew] JACOBS [of Indiana]. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I simply want the record to show that the opening prayer for April 23, 1985, was scheduled to be given by the dean of Indiana ministers, the Reverend Andrew Brown of Indianapolis. But because of the all-night session, there will be historically no opening prayer for the first day, and I am sure that particularly my House of Representatives colleagues hope that Reverend Brown will return on a subsequent date.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I would point out to the gentleman that I believe that the parliamentary situation would be that the opening prayer could be called for at the opening of the session.

Mr. JACOBS. Unfortunately, that is not true. The Parliamentarian has just ruled that it is impossible to have an opening prayer unless there is an adjournment and then a convening of the House.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. SHAW. Then, Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Chair if he would entertain a parliamentary inquiry. I think that by unanimous consent I could yield to the gentleman from Indiana who is going to give us the prayer. We certainly need that at this particular time, and I can certainly say that the people of Indiana would be grateful for that.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. [Mr. WEISS]. The Chair will state that if the House were to adjourn or recess by unanimous consent, then there could be the opportunity and the occasion for prayer under the rules and precedents, but as the situation prevails right now, the House is in continuing session. This is still the same session without interruption that commenced yesterday afternoon.

Mr. SHAW. Then, Mr. Speaker, I would certainly hope that the gentleman who is scheduled to give the opening prayer today would be able to stay with us until the appropriate time when we could adjourn.

Mr. [Robert] WALKER [of Pennsylvania]. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry. . . .

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, then I have a further parliamentary inquiry. I do not understand the difference between theory and practice here. The fact is that we can modify our procedures by unanimous consent, and I would assume that we would not have objections.

Is the Chair ruling that if a unanimous-consent, request is made, in fact the prayer could be delivered, and that we would not have a problem then in proceeding forward from there? . . .

Mr. WALKER. I thank the Chair.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I would at this time ask unanimous consent that the House recess for a period of 2 minutes for the purpose of hearing the prayer.

53. Theodore Weiss (NY).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair really is under an obligation to consult with the Speaker before that kind of decision can be made, and the Chair would again repeat what was stated in the dialog with the gentleman from Pennsylvania. There has been no indication from the gentleman that this is in fact the termination of non legislative business, and in order for the prayer request even to be considered, the House should know that in fact it was about to begin the normal legislative business process of the day.

Mr. SHAW. Then, Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw my unanimous-consent request until the Chair asks permission of the Speaker for the House to pray. . . .

Guest Chaplains

§ 16.10 The former House Chaplain has offered the opening prayer as guest chaplain.

On April 27, 2015,⁽⁵⁴⁾ the following prayer was offered by the former House Chaplain, Father Daniel Coughlin:

PRAYER

Reverend Daniel Coughlin, Archdiocese of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

At the end of the day, God of the heavens and Earth You bid us lay our worries, concerns, and responsibilities to rest.

While we sleep, You continue to care and provide for us. Your creation, renewal of energy, and evolution of beauty and peace continue without us.

Let it be, now and forever.

Amen.

§ 16.11 Where the invited guest chaplain had unexpectedly died, the Speaker indicated that the prayer that was to be offered by the guest chaplain would be given instead by the Chaplain.

On June 25, 1981,⁽⁵⁵⁾ the Speaker made the following announcement regarding the prayer:

The House met at 10 a.m.

The SPEAKER.⁽⁵⁶⁾ The opening prayer today was to be given by Dr. Carroll Hubbard, Sr., father of our Congressman, CARROLL HUBBARD of Kentucky.

Dr. Hubbard died in Louisville, Ky., on June 11. The prayers and the solaces of the Members of the House go to our colleague, CARROLL HUBBARD, and his family.

The prayer that Dr. Hubbard was to offer on this day will be read by our own Chaplain.

§ 16.12 The Senate Chaplain has appeared as guest chaplain in the House to offer the opening prayer.

54. 161 CONG. REC. 5598, 114th Cong. 1st Sess.

55. 127 CONG. REC. 14050, 97th Cong. 1st Sess.

56. Thomas O'Neill (MA).

On May 3, 2001,⁽⁵⁷⁾ the following occurred:

PRAYER

Dr. Lloyd J. Ogilvie, Chaplain, U.S. Senate, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, on this National Day of Prayer, we join with millions across our land in intercession and supplication to You, the Sovereign Lord of the United States of America. As we sound that sacred word Sovereign, we echo Washington, Jefferson, Madison and Lincoln along with other leaders through the years, in declaring that You are our ultimate ruler. We make a new commitment to be one Nation under You, Dear God, and we place our trust in You.

§ 16.13 At the beginning of a new Congress, the returning Chaplain was accompanied by a guest chaplain at the behest of the incoming Speaker.

On January 4, 2007,⁽⁵⁸⁾ the following two prayers were offered at the commencement of the 110th Congress:

This being the day fixed by the 20th amendment to the Constitution of the United States and Public Law 109-447 for the meeting of the Congress of the United States, the Members-elect of the 110th Congress met in their Hall, and at noon were called to order by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Hon. Karen L. Haas.

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

Today is built upon all the yesterdays and contains the promise of all the tomorrows.

Lord God, You are the eternal author of all creation and every age. You are the same yesterday, today and forever. Be present to us now. Be gracious and bless all those duly elected by their districts who gather today to form the House of the people as the 110th Congress of the United States of America for the governance of our beloved Nation.

Together, may they know forthright debate and civil discourse, enact quality legislation and persevere in representing the diversity and the will of the people in addressing the priority issues facing the Nation today.

Bless the families of these Representatives, granting them forbearance and understanding of the public service implied by this undertaking.

Lord, may the 110th Congress of the United States read the signs of the times and seize this moment to create a history that will reflect the values of Your kingdom here on Earth and thereby unite this Nation and reveal to peoples around the world the dignity and the glory of being the free children of God. For to You be the honor, the glory and the power, now and forever. Amen.

At the request of the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, I am pleased to introduce the Reverend Stephen A. Privett, President of the University of San Francisco, for an additional prayer.

The Reverend Stephen A. Privett, President, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, California, offered the following prayer:

I recall this morning the story of a poor mother of five children. When she was asked which of her children she loved the most, she did not answer the expected, "I love them

57. 147 CONG. REC. 7085, 107th Cong. 1st Sess.

58. 153 CONG. REC. 1, 110th Cong. 1st Sess.

all the same.” Rather, she bent down and scooped up into her arms a young child with obviously crippling disabilities. “This one,” she said, “because he needs me the most.”

Let us pray:

God of compassion and mercy, we pray that the new leadership of this Congress and all of its Members will write into law the story of a country that measures its success by God’s standard; by how well it cares for the weakest and most vulnerable among us.

We pray for the legislators of this 110th Congress, that they may challenge, inspire and lead us to put aside self-interest and pursue the common good of all the people of this great Nation of ours, especially of those “who need us the most.” Amen.

Prayer Offered by Members or Staff

§ 16.14 A Member, who was an ordained minister, has offered the opening prayer in the unexpected absence of the Chaplain.

On May 31, 1973,⁽⁵⁹⁾ the following occurred:

The House met at 12 o’clock noon.

The Honorable WILLIAM H. HUDNUT III, of Indiana, offered the following prayer:

This is the day which the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us pray.

§ 16.15 A Member–elect, who was an ordained minister, has offered the prayer in lieu of the returning Chaplain on opening day of a new Congress.

On January 3, 2019,⁽⁶⁰⁾ at the outset of the 116th Congress, the prayer was offered by Emanuel Cleaver, a Member–elect from Missouri:

This being the day fixed by the 20th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, for the meeting of the 116th Congress of the United States, the Representatives–elect met in their Hall, and at noon were called to order by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Hon. Karen L. Haas.

Reverend EMANUEL CLEAVER, St. James United Methodist Church, Kansas City, Missouri, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and endearing God, whose Lordship is just and true, we bow in recognition of that Godship in this hallowed and consequential moment of inaugurating a Speaker to preside over and provide leadership to the House of Representatives of the United States.

May we temporarily hush our preoccupation with vexing considerations that deplete our energy and consume our hours to seek now favor from Thou whose immaculate voting record demonstrates our need of Thy guidance.

We pray, O Lord, for wisdom sufficient to lean not on our unaided privilege and power to embrace our summons to address the great challenges of this day that are fraught with tribalism at home and turbulence abroad.

59. 119 CONG. REC. 17441, 93d Cong. 1st Sess.

60. 165 CONG. REC. H1 [Daily Ed.], 116th Cong. 1st Sess.

Thou who has the whole world in His hand, to Thee we pray for inner resources to rise as a legislative body above political selfishness and then shrink to a level of humility and penitence that would be in harmony with Your will.

When we leave this place, we will, with Your blessing, launch a bold attempt to become the architects of a kindlier Nation that is purging itself of any and all prejudices which degrade the unmatched blessings You have awarded the people of this great Nation.

Inspire us, the Members of this august body, to dedicate ourselves to the healing of open sores in a land where there is far too much mistrust and enmity of those who are different.

Led now in this temple of governance by the Speaker and leaders of both sides of the political aisle, we pray for Your presence in this place.

We need Thee every hour. O Lord, how we need thee. When we are puzzled, guide us with Your hand of direction. When we are worn and wearied, grant us light to find a just and fair way, and when we are confused, anoint our priorities and pet projects so that any diminutive success may give You the glory.

Receive now this prayer, O Lord.

Amen.

§ 16.16 An employee of the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms has offered the daily prayer as a guest chaplain.

On November 11, 1977,⁽⁶¹⁾ the guest chaplain (a member of the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms and ordained minister) referred in his opening prayer the value of House rules and precedents:

PRAYER

Rev. Charles Mallon, St. Matthias Church, Lanham, Md., offered the following prayer:

Happy are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the way of the Lord. Happy are they who observe His decrees, who seek Him with all their hearts.—Psalms 119:1, 2.

Father, you have given us authority to make rules and establish precedents. This prayer is offered by virtue of these same rules and precedents. Happily, our Government permits us to walk in your ways and to seek you with all our hearts. Therefore, we ask you to grant harmonious continuity to this Government.

Bless those national leaders who observe Your decrees and who make blameless decisions. Keep them close to your heart.

Father, give us the wisdom to use the wealth of this Nation wisely. Protect us from selfish and greedy acquisition of material wealth. Intercede in our lives with gentle chastisement and bring happiness into our lives.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

§ 16.17 On a day when the Chaplain was unable to attend the convening of the House, a Member who was not an ordained minister was recognized by the Speaker to offer the prayer.

61. 123 CONG. REC. 37512-13, 95th Cong. 1st Sess. Mr. Mallon also offered the prayer on April 3, 1974. See 119 CONG. REC. 9560, 93d Cong. 2d Sess.

On January 26, 1987,⁽⁶²⁾ because the Chaplain was unable to attend the session of the House due to inclement weather, the following occurred:

The House met at 12 noon.

The gentleman from Georgia, the Honorable DOUG BARNARD, Jr., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, source of wisdom and power, we give thanks for Your blessing to us as individuals and as a nation.

We are grateful for the high and holy traditions of generations past, for those eternal values that have given us purpose and direction in spite of confusion and doubt. We are conscious that Your creative handiwork is the basis of all we hold dear, that our Nation from the beginning has professed that we are a people under Your divine guidance and in Your Word we could trust. May we continue that awareness as we seek to serve You and our Nation in our time and day. Amen.

§ 16.18 A committee staffer who was an ordained minister has offered the prayer as guest chaplain.

On July 2, 1992,⁽⁶³⁾ the following occurred:

The House met at 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Ronald C. Willis, Southern Baptist minister, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Our Father, all of us who serve and work here do so with a deep sense of our need for divine guidance and direction. And so we ask that You keep us from demanding of others that which we ourselves would be unwilling to give. Keep us from the pride that leads to self-deceit. Give us the strength to do that which transcends our own temporal concerns. Help us to understand that none of this exists without Your will as the guiding force. And most of all, O Holy Father, forgive us when we fail to recognize how much we depend on Your spirit to lead us in the direction that brings justice and righteousness to all our Nation's people. We pray these things, this day. Amen. . . .

Mr. [Ronald] DELLUMS [of California]. Mr. Speaker, since March 1979, Reverend Willis has served on the staff of the District of Columbia Committee and presently holds the position of senior staff associate. During his tenure on the District of Columbia Committee, he has been the principle staff person for legislation transferring St. Elizabeth's Hospital from Federal control to that of the government of the District of Columbia; the 1989 Omnibus Drug Program, which resulted in an increase of 700 additional police officers for the Metropolitan Police Department, as well as eight additional superior court judges; and most recently, legislation which amended the 1973 District of Columbia Home Rule Act to establish a fair and equitable Federal payment formula for determining the annual Federal payment to the District of Columbia.

Prior to his appointment to the District of Columbia Committee staff, Reverend Willis served as adult supervisor for the Southwest Mental Health Care in San Antonio, TX.

Reverend Willis was ordained in 1967 and served as senior pastor of Golden Gate Baptist Church in Oakland, CA; senior pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Bangor, ME; and

62. 133 CONG. REC. 1918, 100th Cong. 1st Sess.

63. 138 CONG. REC. 17551, 102d Cong. 2d Sess.

associate pastor of First Baptist Church of San Antonio, TX, which had a membership of 8,900.

A native Californian, Reverend Willis is married and the father of four children.

§ 16.19 In the absence of the Chaplain, the Deputy Parliamentarian has offered the daily prayer at the beginning of the legislative day.

On August 5, 2011,⁽⁶⁴⁾ the following occurred:

PRAYER

The Deputy Parliamentarian, Thomas J. Wickham, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage, we humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Amen.

Printing of Prayers

§ 16.20 The House has authorized the printing of the prayers of the Chaplain as an official House document.

On December 18, 1974,⁽⁶⁵⁾ the following occurred:

PRINTING AS A HOUSE DOCUMENT THE PRAYERS OF THE CHAPLAIN

Mr. [Leslie] ARENDS [of Illinois]. Mr. Speaker, I call up the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 693) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution as follows:

H. CON. RES. 693

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the prayers offered by the Chaplain, the Reverend Edward Gardiner Latch, D.D., L.H.D., at the opening of the daily sessions of the House of Representatives of the United States during the Ninety-second and Ninety-third Congresses, be printed, with appropriate illustration, as a House document, and that three thousand additional copies be printed and bound for the use of the House of Representatives, to be distributed by the Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

64. 157 CONG. REC. 12891, 112th Cong. 1st Sess. For another instance of the Deputy Parliamentarian offering the prayer, see 164 CONG. REC. H9513 [Daily Ed.], 115th Cong. 2d Sess. (Nov. 14, 2018).

65. 120 CONG. REC. 40864, 93d Cong. 2d Sess. See also H. Doc. 93–417, 93d Cong. 2d Sess.

“Chaplain Emeritus” Designations**§ 16.21 By unanimous consent, the House considered and adopted a resolution conferring the title of “Chaplain Emeritus” upon the retiring House Chaplain.⁽⁶⁶⁾**

On November 10, 1999,⁽⁶⁷⁾ the following appointment of Reverend James David Ford as “Chaplain Emeritus” occurred:

APPOINTING REVEREND DR. JAMES DAVID FORD AS CHAPLAIN EMERITUS
OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. [Thomas] PETRI [of Wisconsin]. Mr. Speaker, I call up the resolution, (H. Res. 373) that immediately following his resignation as Chaplain of the House of Representatives and in recognition of the length of his devoted service to the House, Reverend James David Ford be, and he is hereby, appointed Chaplain Emeritus of the House of Representatives, and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution. . . .

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, this resolution is offered in appreciation and thanks for the 20 years of service to the House, its Members, and its employees by our colleague and friend, the Chaplain of the House, the Reverend James David Ford; and I urge its adoption. . . .

Mr. [Dennis] HASTERT [of Illinois]. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Dr. Ford and his devoted service to this House. He is a man of this House. He is a colleague. He is a friend. He is a counselor.

He has touched the lives of many Members in countless ways. He has married us. He has kept marriages together. He has baptized our children. He has visited us in the hospital. He has been with our families as we bid farewell to our beloved colleagues. And, very simply, he has been there when we needed him. He has made us laugh when we did not think we could, and he has made us introspective when we wanted to look elsewhere.

For me personally and the entire House, he was there that tragic day a little over a year ago when a gunman changed our lives in this House forever. He was there for the fallen heroes. He was there for their families. He was there for those of us who knew them well and whose lives were saved by their heroic actions. For that, I will be forever grateful.

Dr. Ford is not allowed to speak on the House floor, and we are not about to break that tradition, even for an emeritus chaplain. But I think it fitting on this occasion to quote him from his charge to the Chaplain Search Committee.

I have been honored to have served you as Chaplain for nearly 20 years, and I leave with deep appreciation for the vital work of the Congress and the people who serve this

66. *Parliamentarian’s Note:* Reverend Ford served the House as Chaplain for 20 years. For previous instances where the House conferred the title of “Chaplain Emeritus” to retiring Chaplains, see 6 Cannon’s Precedents § 31 and 96 CONG. REC. 1095, 81st Cong. 2d Sess. (Jan. 30, 1950).

67. 145 CONG. REC. 29493–96, 106th Cong. 1st Sess.

place so faithfully. I continue with enthusiastic support for this institution, our democracy, and with a sense of thanksgiving for the opportunities that I have been given.

Thank you, Dr. Ford, and may God bless you in the years ahead.

Mrs. [Lois] CAPPS [of California]. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I am very happy to yield to my colleague the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR). . . .

Mr. [James] TRAFICANT [of Ohio]. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I did not plan to say a few words. We all love Dr. Ford, but I am worried for him. As the gentleman from Minnesota talked about, that just is not a one-man plane; that is a small plane with a lawn mower engine. He puts on his helmet, looks like he is right out of Buck Rogers, gets on a Harley Davidson motorcycle, revs it up so you could hear those exhausts, and passes people up speeding down the road.

I am concerned about him with all this free time.

So I think we all better say a collective prayer for a man whose collective prayers have helped an awful lot of us. Godspeed. . . .

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time for allowing us to celebrate the life of our Chaplain, Jim Ford, and I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. [Ray] LAHOOD [of Illinois]). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 373

Resolved, That immediately following his resignation as Chaplain of the House of Representatives and in recognition of the length of his devoted service to the House, Reverend James David Ford be, and he is hereby, appointed Chaplain Emeritus of the House of Representatives.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

§ 16.22 The Chaplain has offered a prayer mourning the death of the Chaplain Emeritus of the House.

On September 5, 2001,⁽⁶⁸⁾ the Chaplain's prayer referenced the death of both a former Member of the House and a former Chaplain of the House who had been designated "Chaplain Emeritus:"

The House met at 2 p.m.

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

God of our forebears in faith, and ever-present Lord of life,

Be with us as we begin this fall session of the 107th Congress. . . .

Grant eternal peace to former Member, The Honorable FLOYD DAVIDSON SPENCE, and former Chaplain, Dr. James David Ford, who died since our last gathering. May their families and friends be surrounded with the consolation and peace which You alone can offer.

May all Americans catch a glimpse of Your glory that they may risk everything to bring about Your Kingdom of truth, justice and love now and forever.

68. 147 CONG. REC. 16380, 107th Cong. 1st Sess.

Amen.

§ 17. The Chief Administrative Officer

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) is an elected officer of the House. The position was created at the beginning of the 104th Congress, replacing a similar, non-elective position known as the Director of Non-Legislative and Financial Services.⁽¹⁾ As indicated by the position's title, the CAO is primarily an administrative position, and, pursuant to clause 4(a) of rule II,⁽²⁾ is responsible for "operational and financial functions of the House" as assigned by the Committee on House Administration.⁽³⁾ The duties of the CAO encompass a variety of managerial tasks, including: administering payroll and benefits for Members and employees of the House; providing furniture and equipment for offices; acquiring goods and services; managing information technology; supervising the media galleries for coverage of House proceedings; and overseeing the House Recording Studio. The CAO is "subject to the policy direction and oversight of the Committee on House Administration."⁽⁴⁾

Pursuant to clause 4(b) of rule II,⁽⁵⁾ the CAO is required to submit semi-annual reports to the Committee on House Administration regarding the "financial and operational status" of each function that falls within the CAO's jurisdiction. Administrative and financial records of House offices are reviewed and audited by the CAO pursuant to clause 4(c) of rule II.⁽⁶⁾ Further, clause 4(d) of rule II⁽⁷⁾ authorizes the CAO to deduct certain fines levied by the Sergeant-at-Arms from the salary of Members.

1. *House Rules and Manual* § 664 (2019). Prior to the creation of the Office of the CAO, administrative duties of the House were undertaken by variety of different officers at different times in the House's history. The new office consolidated various functions previously performed by the Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms, Postmaster, or Doorkeeper. For more on these positions see §§ 13–16, *supra*.
2. *House Rules and Manual* § 661 (2019).
3. *Id.*
4. The "policy direction" facet of the rule was eliminated in the 107th Congress, but reinstated in the 114th Congress. See *House Rules and Manual* § 661 (2019).
5. *House Rules and Manual* § 662 (2019).
6. *House Rules and Manual* § 663 (2019).
7. *House Rules and Manual* § 663a (2019). Under clause 3(g) of rule II, the Sergeant-at-Arms is authorized to levy fines against Members who use electronic devices on the House floor for improper audio or visual recording or broadcasting of House proceedings. See *House Rules and Manual* § 660a (2019). For more on this authority, see § 16, *supra*.