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## House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. JONES].

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

March 13, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable WALTER B. JONES, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

With the psalmist of old we pray:

"Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"

"If I ascend to Heaven, Thou art there! If I make my bed in Sheol, Thou art there!"

"If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there thy hand shall lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."

O gracious God, You have promised to be with us in every time and every place and have assured us that Your healing spirit never leaves. We pray this day that Your spirit and Your blessings are with us and remain with us always. 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 gentlewoman from Oregon [Ms. FURSE] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FURSE 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.

### REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, our Contract With America states the following:

On the first day of Congress, a Republican House will require Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else; cut committee staffs by one-third; and cut the congressional budget.

We kept our promise.

It continues that in the first 100 days, we will vote on the following items: A balanced budget amendment—we kept our promise; unfunded mandates legislation—we kept our promise; line-item veto—we kept our promise; a new crime package to stop violent criminals—we kept our promise; national security restoration to protect our freedoms—we kept our promise; Government regulatory reform—we kept our promise; commonsense legal reform to end frivolous lawsuits—we kept our promise; welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence; family reinforcement to crack down on deadbeat dads and protect our children; tax cuts for middle-income families; Senior Citizens' Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without Government pen-

alty; and congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract With America.

### ELIMINATION OF LIHEAP IS IRRESPONSIBLE

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

Mr. BALDACCIO. Mr. Speaker, our Republican colleagues have proposed the elimination of funds for the LIHEAP Program. This is simply irresponsible.

The winter in Maine is long and cold. Last month in Presque Isle, the temperature averaged just 9 degrees. That's relatively warm. In January 1994, the average temperature was minus .7 degree. Last winter, 60,000 Maine households received help from the LIHEAP Program.

An elderly woman in Woodland, ME, recently sent a letter to the State agency that oversees LIHEAP funds to say thank you for her fuel assistance. She said that she had high medication costs and lived on a meager income, and that without LIHEAP, she would have been forced to stop buying the medications that keep her well.

Nobody should be forced to choose between heat and medicine or heat and food. This proposal unfairly targets two highly vulnerable populations: children and the elderly. That is wrong. It is not the fault of children or the poor or the elderly that our Nation faces high deficits and debts. They should not have the budget balanced on their backs.

I urge my colleagues to reject this proposal to kill the LIHEAP Program. LIHEAP is not waste; it is not pork; it is an effective program that saves lives and deserves to be maintained.

□ 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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