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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. LINDER].

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 16, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable JOHN LINDER 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:

We are grateful, O God, for those blessings that make life meaningful and cause us to be the people You would have us be. Especially do we offer our thanksgivings for faith and hope and love which are Your gifts to us and without which we do not reflect Your grace or Your divine image. For faith—to see more clearly Your purposes for us; for hope—to rise above the concerns of the day with trust in Your providence; for love—to be reconciled with others in respect and with the knowledge that we are all Your people blessed by Your spirit and encouraged by Your presence. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LINDER). 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 Colorado [Mr. HEFLEY] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HEFLEY 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will state that according to a previous agreement, there will be five 1-minutes on each side.

REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

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

Mr. JONES. 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 rein-

forcement 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 penalty, and Congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature.

This is our Contract With America.

POTOMAC PORK PALACE

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

Mr. BROWDER. Mr. Speaker, here is the latest beltway boondoggle. U.S. Army bosses are shortchanging the American soldier in order to build a Potomac pork palace in Washington, DC.

The Army is asking \$17 million to buy private land—land assessed for taxes at only \$10 million—for construction of a museum overlooking the Potomac River and Washington's monuments. Here is the kicker. The Army already has 48 museums throughout the country.

I am shocked that the Army Secretary and Chief of Staff would ask for such an expenditure when we are having to cut everything—personnel, training, bases—in our military.

This is extravagance. The taxpayers money should be spent on something more critical for the national defense.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to try to redirect this \$17 million to something our fighting men and women really need.

I encourage other Members of this body to contact me if they are interested in killing "Fort Pork-on-the-Potomac."

RECOGNIZE FREE CHINA NOW

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House

□ 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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for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, the State Department has launched another of its vendettas against the free people of the Republic of China. Not content to ostracize Taiwan from the world community, the Clinton administration has imposed humiliating sanctions on Free China while it curries favor with the brutal communist gerontocracy in Communist China.

Despite an outpouring of goodwill from the American people and the Congress, this administration continues its "One China" policy with a regime which represses its own people and floods America with cheap goods made by slave labor. Incredibly, the White House refused to permit the President of Taiwan to leave his plane while it stopped in Hawaii. President Lee was scheduled to receive the distinguished alumnus award from his alma mater, Cornell University, in June. But, the Foggy Bottom bureaucrats will not let him in the country. Yet the same bureaucrats let Castro and Arafat come to New York and they host fancy receptions for Assad and Ortega.

We have aided and abetted the Communist plan to isolate Taiwan. Once a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, only 29 countries now recognize Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan has been a loyal ally for 50 years. It is the world's 19th largest economy. In the name of justice we must fully recognize Taiwan, return her to the United Nations, and turn our moral and economic force against the real villains—the mainland Communists. Mr. Clinton, recognize Taiwan now.

DEMOCRATS WILL WORK NEXT WEEK TO BRING ABOUT REAL WELFARE REFORM

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the House Republican extremist express is headed into overdrive next week. The Republican welfare reform proposal is soft on linking welfare to work, which must be the linchpin of welfare reform, and it is hard on punishing children, when the aim of welfare reform should be to help children break out of the cycle of dependency and poverty.

The Republican plan would allow States to meet participation rates if not a single person on welfare in the State were moved from welfare to work, and it would punish kids if their mother is under 18, if they are a second child in a family, or handicapped, or in foster care.

Republicans are saying "Live by the book, by the words of the Contract," regardless of the consequences. Welfare reform is vitally needed, real welfare reform. Democrats will work next week to bring that about, not to recklessly

ride over the cliff with the Republican proposal.

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SHOULD EITHER PUT UP OR SHUT UP

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I have some graphs here to illustrate the differences in the way Republicans approach leadership and the way liberal Democrats approach leadership. The first graph I have here shows how Republicans will increase funding and grow children, not government, through WIC and school lunch programs.

The next chart shows how Republicans plan to change welfare for the better. The next chart shows how American families will benefit from meaningful tax relief we sponsor. This final graph shows the Republican plan to balance the budget by the year 2002.

Now, look closely. Here is the liberal Democrat plan to cut spending. Here is the liberal Democrat plan to provide tax relief to American families. Here is the liberal Democrat plan to change welfare. Finally, Mr. Speaker, here is their plan in detail, I might add, to balance the budget.

Mr. Speaker, liberal Democrats offer no vision. Here is our plan. Friends on the other side, it is time to put up or shut up.

TERM LIMITS

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

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I hear plenty of Republicans talk tough about those who are living off of the taxpayers' money.

I hear Republicans say "it was never meant to become a way of life."

I hear them say that "these people need to get real jobs" and that "we have to cut additional benefits right away."

Instead of cracking down on mothers and children who need some help, they should apply these same tough standards to the career politicians who have spent decades on the public payroll.

Now, you will hear plenty of Republicans—including those who have spent their entire adult lives inside Washington—say that they support term limits.

But, if they really mean it, then I expect them to support an amendment to make term limits immediate.

If you really support a 12-year limit, and if you have been here 12 years, it is time to pack up.

They talk about tough love for those receiving government assistance.

Well then, I can certainly offer that same tough love to Members of this House who say that they support term

limits, but are having a little trouble kicking the congressional habit.

CHEAP TALK, EXPENSIVE FISH

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the Republican rescission package that we have been considering over the last couple of days includes emergency funding for earthquake disaster relief. To pay for this relief, the bill includes \$17.2 billion in rescissions across the Federal Government.

In light of the Democratic opposition to the bill, go with me for a moment to those thrilling days of yesteryear about 2 years ago. Bill Clinton was the newly elected President. He asked Congress to pass another emergency funding package. This time, however, the package was bigger. It was \$16 billion in new spending. There were no offsets. The \$16 billion went directly to the deficit.

What national emergency was Bill Clinton confronting? He said we needed a national fish atlas, and to assess electronic fish habitat technology, and study the sickle fish chub populations. Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton began his Federal diet by offering Uncle Sam \$16 billion in pork. Today the new Republican majority is making real decisions and real cuts.

THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, next week when we consider H.R. 4, the Personal Responsibility Act of 1995, I hope we will have a fair rule. I hope we will have an open rule. I have filed two amendments that I would present if the rules allow. My first amendment would eliminate the language creating a block grant that will restore fair food assistance program.

My second amendment will provide that those who are required to work as a condition of their assistance at least be paid the minimum wage.

Mr. Speaker, both of these amendments deserve consideration. They deserve debate. They deserve a vote by the House. Converting nutritional programs to block grants is a major change. Forced labor at less than minimum wage is a significant policy decision.

It will be most unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, if Americans are denied an opportunity to or are closed out of this debate and discussion. Let us have an open rule. Let us have a vigorous debate. Let America understand where we stand on these very important issues.