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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. HEFLEY].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 28, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable JOEL HEFLEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Kurt G. Jung, Lutheran pastor retired, Cape Coral, FL, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and gracious God, We begin this day with the Psalmist: "I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High."—Psalms 9: 2.

Eternal God, You have blessed us and not failed us. We have every reason to be thankful, and we do glorify Your name today.

Lord, as we have faith in Your unfailing love and guidance, You can give us a positive vision of hope and life for our Nation. As You guided our Founding Fathers, so You can lead each one of us. Give us wisdom to make the decisions we know to be spiritual, right, and honorable. Help us to hear Your guiding voice amid the clamor of the masses.

In Your holy name. 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 North Carolina [Mrs. MYRICK] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. MYRICK 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 entertain fifteen 1-minute on each side.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. KURT GERHARD JUNG

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in extending a warm welcome to today's guest minister, the Reverend Dr. Kurt Gerhard Jung. Reverend Jung is a constituent of mine from Cape Coral, FL, which is the largest city in my district, and I am delighted to introduce him to the House and to thank him for his inspiring words of opening prayer for today's session.

Reverend Jung has devoted the better part of his life to public and spiritual service, both in this country and in Germany. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and has taught religion, theology, and language courses at a variety of higher learning institutions in this country and

abroad. During his nearly four decades in Germany, in fact, Reverend Jung served as the adjunct chaplain to the American military forces in Berlin and presided as senior minister in several German churches. Although he describes himself as semiretired these days, he is certainly quite active in the southwest Florida community that I live in, teaching Bible study, filling in for other pastors, and doing all kinds of good works for our community.

He and his wife, Ruth, have three children and three grandchildren. One of his children, David, is known to many of our colleagues because he serves us well on the staff of the Committee on International Relations.

We are most pleased to have Reverend Jung and his wife, Ruth, and children, Nancy, Jonathan, and David, and grandchildren, Jan, Andreas, and Karsten with us today. We wish them a warm welcome and thanks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my esteemed colleague from Florida in extending a warm welcome to our guest chaplain, Dr. Kurt Jung, from Cape Coral, FL. Dr. Jung's eloquent prayer is certainly a testimony to his many years of dedicated service in the ministry.

Indeed, our country needs to be reminded every day in prayer in our efforts to uphold the spiritual and moral principles that have guided our great Nation. Dr. Jung is no stranger to the challenges and dangers of the diverse world in which we all live. He served faithfully with the U.S. Navy during World War II, after which his calling to

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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the ministry took him to higher education at both Princeton Theological Seminary and the Free University in Berlin. During the height of the cold war, Dr. Jung served as an adjunct chaplain and administered to the spiritual needs of our men and women in uniform in the divided city of Berlin and frontline between East and West. In addition, Dr. Jung worked as a senior pastor at several German churches where he was also founder of the first Special Olympics for the mentally impaired.

I am also pleased to welcome Dr. Jung's wife Ruth, who has been at his side in marriage for 43 years. They have three grown children, one of whom is David, who works on our Committee on International Relations and does some outstanding work for us.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will take the opportunity to meet this distinguished American citizen, and I would like to thank him for taking the time to be here today.

REGULATION OF POLITICAL EXPRESSION

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

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon a hearing will be conducted that will be eerily reminiscent of the era of the House Un-American Activities Committee. The Committee on Government Reform will hold hearings on a proposal that would, believe it or not, regulate political expression in this country, the so-called McIntosh-Istook-Ehrlich proposal.

If anybody has any doubt that this is a calculated effort to intimidate many groups and individuals from full participation in American political life, then imagine the chilling effect of receiving the following demand for information from the chairman of a congressional committee: "In the past five years, has your organization engaged in political advocacy as defined in the attached legislation? If so, provide a description of the type of advocacy and an estimate of the expenditures on each such activity."

The idea that any Member of this House would dare—would dare—to call on free citizens of this Nation to account for their constitutionally protected activities should offend every one of us. It constitutes an outrageous abuse of authority.

SPENDING TAXPAYER MONEY ON PAC CONTRIBUTIONS

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I could not sit back and listen to the previous speaker without responding to the American taxpayers. There are 40,000 organizations that receive over \$39 bil-

lion in taxpayer funded grants and so forth, and they are not subject to public disclosure or records of where the money went.

One group received 97 percent of its budget from the Federal Government and turned around and gave \$405,000 to congressional candidates through their PAC. I do not think that is what the taxpayers want. There are plenty of good organizations who will continue to get funding and will continue to have political input. What we want to do is stop the abuse of taxpayer moneys for political purposes.

I have cosponsored an amendment to this bill that says that if you spend less than \$25,000 a year on political activities, you are exempt from it. There is also a provision in the bill that exempts you if 5 percent or less of your money is spent on it.

This is not going after the small groups. This is going after the big political business groups. I urge my colleagues to support the Istook-McIntosh amendment.

HERSHEY FOODS MOVING CANDY PRODUCTION TO MEXICO

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, from Mars to the Milky Way, all of America has experienced the Kiss, the Hershey Kiss. Now, after the State of Pennsylvania gave them tax breaks, now, after workers gave them concessions, Hershey is moving its factory that makes the Kiss to Mexico; from Mars to Milky Way to Mexico. Tell me, Mr. Speaker, will the Hershey Kiss become known throughout America as the Tijuana Kiss?

Take it from an old Pitt quarterback who is kissed off. We have let NAFTA and GATT take our jobs. Where are our constituents going to work? In McDonalds and Wal-Marts? My God, when Hershey of America becomes Hershey of Mexico, we had better reconsider our economic policies in America.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of these Kisses.

MEDICARE, THE GOP'S WELL- MEANING RESCUE SQUAD

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, that is a tough act to follow.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to read this morning from an editorial which appeared in the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Anyone who is from the Upper Midwest would never say that the Minneapolis Star Tribune is a Republican propaganda organ. But I would like to read what they had to say last Sunday in an editorial entitled "Medicare, the GOP's Well-Meaning Rescue Squad."

Supporting the elderly already swallows up one-third of the Federal budget. Unless shifts

are made soon, baby boomers will face a grim and threadbare old age.

There's no mystery to all this, of course. President Clinton knows that Medicare is going under, and so do the Democrats in Congress. You'd think the witness to such a calamity might be moved to join the rescue team—or at least yell helpful comments. No such luck. Uninclined to get their feet wet, the Democrats seem content to play on the vulnerability of the 37 million Americans holding on to the Medicare lifeline. Their chief contribution to the discussion is the accusation that Republicans are trying to "wreck Medicare."

Surely the Democrats have more to contribute than potshots like that.

The looming dangers for Medicare should revive the reform effort and spur earnest attempts at compromise. Instead of sniping from the safety of the shore, the Democrats should wade in and help with the rescue.

OPPOSING CUTS IN MEDICARE

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

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the proposed cuts in the Medicare Program by the Republicans. I am incensed that after months of talking on this issue, the Republicans are still hell-bent on making cuts in Medicare, so that they can give their rich supporters a tax break and balance the budget at the expense of senior citizens.

To ask one segment of our society to suffer unnecessary pain so that the wealthy can receive an undeserved gain is just wrong. It is un-American. It is unfair.

The elderly must not be perceived as an unnecessary drain on this country's economic resources. Let us not forget that Americans who are now 60 years of age contributed to the largest economic boom in the history of this country. In short, they have paid their dues.

Mr. Speaker, please do not break the backs of our senior citizens by doing away with Medicare as we know it today, merely to give your rich supporters a tax break. The elderly deserve compassion, not vengeance. Leave Medicare alone.

REPEAL DAVIS-BACON ACT

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

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, today, the Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee will mark up its reconciliation package—that includes the repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act.

The Budget Committee has already acted on this, and included it in the fiscal year 1996 budget resolution.

Davis-Bacon needs to be repealed not only for budgetary reasons—but for commonsense reasons.

This law serves no practical purpose in today's world.