



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 142

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1996

No. 35

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

March 14, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable MARK FOLEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Daniel J. Maher, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Good and gracious God, we thank You for the many blessings You have poured out upon our Nation. As we praise You for Your wondrous works, we thank You too for raising up those assembled here who are servants of Your people and for calling them to be instruments of Your will for our land. Help them to bear gracefully this mantle of responsibility placed upon them. Inspire their deliberations this day, that they may more perfectly fulfill the sacred trust that both You and we, the people, have bestowed upon them. Bless our Nation through them and help them to live in the spirits of unity and peace that we hope their endeavors will assure for all the people of this Republic. We ask all these things 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.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. LUCAS. 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 pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with amendments a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2854. An act to modify the operation of certain agricultural programs.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2854) "An act to modify the operation of certain agricultural programs," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of

the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. LUGAR, Mr. DOLE, Mr. HELMS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. HEFLIN, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. CONRAD, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

TIME TO REIN IN SPENDING, AND HAVE LIMITED AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT

(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, \$8 billion. Inside the Beltway here, in this land of bureaucracy in the District of Columbia, \$8 billion may not seem like a lot of money, but, Mr. Speaker, to the people of the Sixth District of Arizona, and I would say to people nationwide, \$8 billion is a whole lot of money, especially when those \$8 billion, Mr. Speaker, are going to come out of the pockets of the American people.

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, we have to have limited and effective government. Yet, the gentleman at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue has the same old answer to the question. He talks about the days of big government being over. Yet, he wants to fund \$8 billion of additional ineffective Washington programs.

Mr. Speaker, when I return to the Sixth District of Arizona, no one runs up to me and says "Please, Congressman, take more and more of my money for ineffective government programs." They say the time has come to rein in spending and have a limited and effective government.

EFFECTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS WILL SUFFER UNDER EXTREME REPUBLICAN BUDGET CUTS

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address

□ 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.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

H2225

the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is great to follow my colleague, the gentleman from Arizona, when he talks about ineffective government programs. Last week I had an opportunity to attend an honor society induction at Marshall Middle School in North Side Houston. Over 50 hard-working, very bright young Americans were inducted into the National Honor Society, and it was a moving ceremony. It illustrated the success of public education.

Mr. Speaker, this school and its feeder elementary schools stand to lose teachers, face larger school classes, and would be denied extra help in reading and writing if the majority Republicans continue to insist on their extreme education cuts. Even though the U.S. Senate voted overwhelmingly to restore vital funding in education and job training, the House Republicans are still wedded to their bill that makes serious cutbacks in education.

Mr. Speaker, let me point out that chart that is a layoff notice to the teachers and local school students. Schools are now making their budgets for next year. That layoff notice will say, "I regret to inform you because of massive Federal budget cuts we are going to cut education funding in your district," so teachers will be laid off and class size will be higher.

Mr. Speaker, let us stop these extreme budget cuts.

SECRETARY O'LEARY GETS PORKER OF THE WEEK AWARD

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the Washington Times reports this morning that energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary has spent \$3.4 million to send 17,000 DOE employees to a self-help workshop called Seven Habits which is based on the book by time-management guru Steven Covey.

The 4-day workshops were run by 285 Energy Department Seven Habits facilitators and are designed to help DOE employees cope with the chaos of change.

Last month, this same Department furloughed 2,700 of its employees—without pay—due to budget shortfalls.

It is reported that Secretary O'Leary rejected advice to cut from the training and travel budgets to avoid the furloughs.

Perhaps it would be more advisable to send Secretary O'Leary to a money management workshop.

One of Steven Covey's seven habits is to be proactive. Perhaps the President should be proactive and dump Secretary O'Leary.

Secretary O'Leary gets my Porker of the Week Award this week.

THE NRA BACKS GUTTING ANTITERRORISM BILL

(Mr. SCHUMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, the violent terrorist group Hamas found a new friend yesterday, the NRA, the National Rifle Association. Yesterday the House went toe-to-toe with this violent terrorist group in our debate over the antiterrorism bill. It was not a fair fight, and Hamas won. It was not a fair fight because the fix was in. The National Rifle Association and its allies jumped into the ring.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Georgia, NEWT GINGRICH, and the Republican leadership bowed to the narrow demands of the NRA and the Republican party's extreme right wing. By the time they had done their work, the terrorism bill was eviscerated. Make no mistake, America, the bill is on life support. It will take a miracle to keep it alive. That will make our law enforcement officials' fight against the growing threat of terrorism harder.

By gutting the terrorism bill, the NRA allows tens of thousands of dollars and other support to continue flowing from this country into the coffers of groups like Hamas. Those resources will be used to slaughter scores of innocent people. Shame, Mr. Speaker. Shame.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF PERSIAN GULF WAR

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

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, 5 years after the Persian Gulf war our Nation still imports over 9 million barrels of oil a day. What's worse—oil imports have hurt domestic production and taken away U.S. jobs. We've lost over 500,000 American jobs since the early 1980's because of oil imports.

Our Nation's growing reliance on foreign oil is not just an issue that affects the oil patch—it's something that everyone should be concerned about.

If we want to lessen our reliance on oil imports, then we need to take steps to stimulate production of oil and gas right here in the United States. In order to boost production, we need to look at reducing unnecessary regulations that cripple U.S. production.

There are indeed, Mr. Speaker, many alternatives to oil dependency. Educating people about those alternatives will be a key to a stronger American oil and gas industry.

WE NEED THE TRUTH ABOUT PAN AM 103

(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, while Congress debates terrorism, the bombing of Pan American flight 103 is still a controversy. The Justice Department says the Libyans did it, and they indicted two Libyans who are still in jail over in Libya. Meanwhile, intelligence experts around the world disagree. They say these two Libyans were mules and runners who were incapable of masterminding and destroying Pan American flight 103. I agree. I say if Qadhafi has responsible for the downing of Pan American flight 103, these two Libyans would have already choked on a chicken bone and would have met their maker by now.

I think Congress deserves the truth. I think the families of the victims of 103 deserve the truth. I think the CIA and the Justice Department are withholding the truth. If Congress is going to stop terrorism, Congress should get the truth. Passing laws, in and of itself, will not stop terrorism.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The chair will recognize out of order the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN] to welcome the guest chaplain. The time will not count against the 1-minutes.

WELCOME TO THE REVEREND DANIEL J. MAHER

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

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, what an honor to rise today for our Chaplain, who just gave such a beautiful invocation, our Chaplain for the day, Father Daniel Joseph Maher. He was born February 1, 1965, in Newport News, VA, raised throughout childhood in the city of Hampton, VA; a graduate of the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg with a BBA degree in 1986.

Father received his Masters of Divinity degree summa cum laude from St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia in 1990. He was ordained to the Roman Catholic priesthood in May 1991 for the diocese of Arlington, VA. Father served for 4 years as associate pastor of St. Leo the Great Church in Fairfax, VA, where I have seen him many times upon the beautiful altar there; concurrently served 4 years as a notary for the tribunal of the diocese of Arlington.

Father currently is associate rector of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception here in Washington, DC, the seventh largest house of worship in the world. He has charge of all the worship services conducted at the Basilica.

Thank you, Father, for giving us such stirring words this morning.