



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 142

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1996

No. 49

## House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. GILLMOR].

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

April 17, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable PAUL E. GILLMOR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Ronald F. Christian, Office of the Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

The heavens declare Your beauty, O God, and the firmament shows Your handiwork.

We pray, O God, that we may all more quickly recognize and give thanks for the beauty that surrounds us, and we pray that we may more reverently receive Your gifts and offer our gratitude for them daily.

For the hours of this day, we give You thanks. Help us, O God, to use each moment wisely so that neither sloth nor waste will occupy this time which will never be returned to us.

Dispose our days and our deeds in Your peace, O God. 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 Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. KAPTUR 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 without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 255. An act to designate the Federal Justice Building in Miami, Florida, as the "James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building";

H.R. 869. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 125 Market Street in Youngstown, Ohio, as the "Thomas D. Lambros Federal Building and United States Courthouse";

H.R. 1804. An act to designate the United States Post Office-Courthouse located at South 6th and Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, Arkansas, as the "Judge Isaac C. Parker Federal Building";

H.R. 2415. An act to designate the United States Customs Administrative Building at the Ysleta/Zaragosa Port of Entry located at 797 South Zaragosa Road in El Paso, Texas, as the "Timothy C. McCaghren Customs Administrative Building"; and

H.R. 2556. An act to designate the Federal building located at 345 Middlefield Road in Menlo Park, California, and known as the Earth Sciences and Library Building, as the "Vincent E. McKelvey Federal Building."

### ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE IMPROVE- MENT ACT

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

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the Rules Committee will be meeting at the beginning of next week to grant a rule on H.R. 1675, the National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act.

Resources Committee Chairman YOUNG has requested an open rule. He has further requested that the rule make in order as original text for the purpose of amendment a new amendment in the nature of a substitute.

This amendment in the nature of a substitute by Chairman YOUNG reflects negotiations the Resources Committee has held with both the Department of the Interior and the Department of Defense.

Amendments should be drafted to the text of the amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Chairman YOUNG, which has been printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of April 16, 1996, numbered 1. Priority in recognition may be given to those amendments which are preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. However, preprinting of amendments is optional.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are properly drafted and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

### OSHA, AT IT AGAIN

(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, I hope Mike Royko's column today is a joke, but unfortunately it is not. OSHA is at it again.

Apparently, a small business in Chicago recently received a set of instructions from OSHA on how to safely handle water. Yes, water, not waste water, not contaminated water, just water. The instructions include water's boiling point, its freezing point, its weight.

□ 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

H3493

The laboratory protective equipment recommended included safety glasses and a lab coat, and instructions include keeping the container lid on tightly closed and how to transport the water and a warning to protect it from freezing.

Yes, Mr. Royko points out, however, that OSHA did not document any effects of overexposure to water. Does OSHA not consider drowning a hazard? The bureaucrats at OSHA also failed to identify any conditions to avoid. What about the chance of burning your hand if the water is too hot?

Mr. Speaker, the time to reform OSHA is now.

#### UNITED STATES-JAPAN AUTO FIGURES

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, with the President in Japan, it is time to take stock of our abysmal trade accounts with that nation.

The administration is doing its best to put a public relations spin to last year's massive \$60 billion trade deficit with Japan. Look at the facts: During the first 3 years of the Clinton administration, the United States has suffered over \$185 billion in more trade deficits with Japan, a 39-percent increase over the abysmal trade deficit records under the Bush administration. U.S. auto manufacturers still have less than 1 measly percent of Japan's auto market, while Japan commands over one-third, 33 percent of this market. The value of the dollar against the yen has gone down by 40 percent since 1990, making our automotive goods 40 percent cheaper in their market. Yet the United States gained only one-third of 1 percent of Japan's auto market since 1995.

Mr. Speaker, let us save the high fives. We have scaled an ant hill. Now all that is left is the mountain.

#### WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MIDDLE-CLASS TAX CUT?

(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, recalling my career in radio, here is a golden oldie I am sure our liberal friends will absolutely love. It is taken from one of Bill Clinton's 1992 campaign commercials:

I'm Bill Clinton, and I think you deserve a change. That's why I've offered a plan to get the economy moving again, starting with the middle-class tax cut.

But after the election, Bill Clinton forgot about the middle class. He must have developed some sort of memory problem. For 2 years when he and the liberals had control of both the White House and this Congress, Bill Clinton still refused to honor his promise to

cut taxes to the middle class. In fact, the record clearly shows he raised taxes, 250 billion dollars' worth.

Bill Clinton traded in his promise of tax relief for the largest tax increase in American history. And then, in this new Congress, he vetoed tax relief the new majority provided to most every American.

Mr. Speaker, the President had a chance. He blew it. The new majority is committed to letting Americans hang onto more of their hard-earned dollars.

#### CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT OR NOT

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, a male prisoner wanting to be a lady demanded hormone injections at taxpayer expense, citing the 14th amendment. A lower court said this would-be lady is a tramp, absolutely not.

But the 10th Circuit Court said, hey, let luck be a lady tonight, citing the 8th amendment, said to deny hormones for this prisoner would be cruel and unusual punishment.

Unbelievable. Who are these three judges? Larry, Moe, and Curly? Do they realize that these prisoners get free food, health care, libraries, TV's? What is next? Wonderbras, pantyhose? Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. I say injections are in order, not for the prisoner, but for the three judges. They should get a combination injection of Prozac and common sense.

Think about it. I yield back the balance of these injections.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Our guests in the gallery are reminded that demonstrations of approval or disapproval are not permitted under the rules of the House.

#### WORKING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ACT

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, a year ago, a 12-year-old boy by the name of Iqbal Masih was murdered in Pakistan because he had dared to speak out against child slave labor.

Iqbal had been sold by his father for \$16 when he was 4 years old. He was chained to a loom. When he made a mistake, he was savagely beaten.

With the help of an American firm, he escaped and spoke out against this practice, which is actually on the rise in Asia and Africa and Latin America, because there is so much profit to be made by exploiting children that poor governments are very easily corrupted.

He tried to make a difference. He was murdered. But it is up to us to follow his lead, to show his courage.

Today in honor of Iqbal and the millions of children who work as forced laborers, I am proud to introduce the Working Children's Rights Act. It will deny U.S. foreign aid to countries that refuse to enforce their own labor laws, it will deny aid to governments that continue to violate the most basic human rights of children, and it will require the State Department to investigate corruption and provide for yearly hearings, so that we will never forget the terrible plight faced by millions of children like Iqbal Masih.

#### REPEAL 16TH AMENDMENT

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, our current Tax Code has undergone 31 major revisions and 400 minor revisions over the past 40 years. It has grown from 11,000 words to over 7 million words. The IRS now prints about 480 different tax forms for Americans to fill out. But taxpayers shouldn't fear because the IRS will send you an additional 280 forms to explain how to fill out the first 480. Doesn't that sound simple?

All this complex nonsense costs Americans about 5.4 billion hours and \$200 billion a year.

Is it any wonder that Americans are frustrated, angry, and just plain fed up with our current tax system. It's time to replace it. Join me in repealing the 16th amendment. We must get rid of the IRS. This country and her citizens deserve no less.

#### INCREASE THE MINIMUM WAGE

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

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, if NEWT GINGRICH and the radical right Republicans want to do something for the working poor, then let us have a minimum wage bill. Yesterday some of their Members stood in the well on that side and said, "Well, we have already proposed to take care of the working poor through our tax bill that we passed last year, and the President vetoed it."

Nothing is further from the truth. There is not one penny, not one penny, in that tax bill for the working poor. You take a two-wage earner family with two children, both working at minimum wage. They do not pay any taxes. There is nothing in your tax bill that helps them.

The only way that we can help the working poor get out of poverty, the only way we can help people get off welfare, is to increase the minimum wage.

Why, Mr. Speaker, do you and the radical right Republicans refuse to permit the Democrats to bring a minimum wage bill to this floor? I say to you, let us do it now.