



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MAY 5, 1997

No. 56

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON DC,
May 5, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

Gracious God, we offer our gratitude on this day full of grace, for our lives and our health and every good; for the challenge of our work as well as the responsibility of our duty; for our friends and colleagues with whom we may converse.

We seek Your blessing on this day full of grace. Bless all our efforts that can make life more comfortable, good health more possible, and meaningful work more available. Bless all our conversations that they may be encouraging and supportive of each person even when outcomes may differ.

We pray for Your mercy on this day full of grace. Show us all mercy when what we accomplish is less than our capabilities. Show us all mercy when our present goals are short of Your expectations. And, show us all mercy when we choose selfish gain over selfless giving.

These things we do humbly ask in Your name, 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 gentleman from California [Mr. FILNER] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FILNER 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 2, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following messages from the Secretary of the Senate on Friday, May 2, 1997: That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 61; that the Senate passed S. 543; and that the Senate passed S.J. Res. 29.

With warm regards,
ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 2, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Friday, May 2 at 1:00 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a report on the U.S. comprehensive preparedness program for countering proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

With warm regards,
ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives.

REPORT DESCRIBING U.S. READINESS PROGRAM FOR COUNTERING PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 105-79)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers without objection, referred to the Committee on National Security and International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 (Public Law 104-201), title XIV, section 1443 (Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction), requires the President to transmit a report to the Congress that describes the United States comprehensive readiness program for countering proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In accordance with this provision, I enclose the attached report.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 2, 1997.

□ 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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