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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE).

NOTICE

If the 106th Congress, 1st Session, adjourns sine die on or before November 10, 1999, a final issue of the Congressional Record for the 106th Congress, 1st Session, will be published on November 30, 1999, in order to permit Members to revise and extend their remarks.

All material for insertion must be signed by the Member and delivered to the respective offices of the Official Reporters of Debates (Room HT-60 or S-123 of the Capitol), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. through November 29. The final issue will be dated November 30, 1999, and will be delivered on Wednesday, December 1, 1999.

If the 106th Congress does not adjourn until a later date in 1999, the final issue will be printed at a date to be announced.

None of the material printed in the final issue of the Congressional Record may contain subject matter, or relate to any event that occurred after the sine die date.

Senators' statements should also be submitted electronically, either on a disk to accompany the signed statement, or by e-mail to the Official Reporters of Debates at "Records@Reporters".

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

WILLIAM M. THOMAS, *Chairman*.

NOTICE

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MICHAEL F. DiMARIO, *Public Printer*.

☐ 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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DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 5, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable EDWARD A. PEASE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Teach us, gracious God, that wherever we are, whatever we do, we will live with the spirit of gratitude for Your many blessings to us, and with appreciation for the colleagues and friends who surround us.

Remind us each day, O God, that since You have created the world and breathed into every woman and man the very breath of life, we should look upon others with tolerance and respect.

Open our eyes to see a vision of Your majesty, give us strong hands to work for justice, and may our hearts know Your peace and Your love. This is our earnest prayer. 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 Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TRAFICANT 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 Ms. McDevitt, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3122. An act to permit the enrollment in the House of Representatives Child Care Center of children of Federal employees who are not employees of the legislative branch.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 225. An act to provide Federal housing assistance to Native Hawaiians.

S. 438. An act to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, and for other purposes.

S. 720. An act to promote the development of a government in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) based on democratic principles and the rule of law, and that respects internationally recognized human rights, to assist the victims of Serbian oppression, to apply measures against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and for other purposes.

S. 777. An act to require the Department of Agriculture to establish an electronic filing and retrieval system to enable the public to file all required paperwork electronically with the Department and to have access to public information on farm programs, quarterly trade, economic, and production reports, and other similar information.

S. 1290. An act to amend title 36 of the United States Code to establish the American Indian Education Foundation, and for other purposes.

S. 1455. An act to enhance protections against fraud in the offering of financial assistance for college education, and for other purposes.

S. 1753. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that an adopted alien who is less than 18 years of age may be considered a child under such act if adopted with or after a sibling who is a child under such act.

S. 1754. An act to deny safe havens to international and war criminals, and for other purposes.

S. 1866. An act to redesignate the Coastal Barrier Resources System as the "John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System".

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 468) "An Act to improve the effectiveness and performance of Federal financial assistance programs, simplify Federal financial assistance application and reporting requirements, and improve the delivery of services to the public."

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 5 one-minute requests per side.

ERGONOMIC STANDARDS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, if one is an employer, what are the eight most dreaded words in the English language? "I am from OSHA and I am here to help." Recently the Occupational Safety and Health Administration said, we know enough to act now. We want to issue sweeping new and punitive ergonomic standards. OSHA plans to finalize its standards in the coming weeks unless Congress intervenes.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for Congress to intervene. OSHA refuses to wait for the results of the National Academy of Sciences study on the issue, a study which Congress recommended and funded in 1998. OSHA's regulations would impact nearly every industry, cost employers millions of dollars, and result in substantial increases in worker compensation costs due to the pro-

posed 100 percent replacement of wages and benefits. These facts might very well have been uncovered by the National Academy of Sciences, but OSHA would not wait.

Mr. Speaker, along with dreaded words come dreaded policies and arrogance. I yield back the balance of my time and any common sense left at OSHA.

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL, AND THE PRICE OF FREEDOM

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

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, this week we celebrate the 224th birthday of the United States Marine Corps, and also we mark the anniversary of the tearing down of the Berlin Wall. These two events have a lot to do with each other. If we think of all of the wondrous things that have happened over the past 10 years, the collapse of the Communist system in Eastern Europe, the tearing down of the Berlin Wall, the break-up of the Soviet Union into individual democratic republics, we cannot help but reach the conclusion that freedom is not free. We paid a tremendous price for it.

I believe that we should remember every day that had it not been for the men and women who wore the uniform of the United States military through the years, we would not have the privilege of going around bragging about how we live in the freest and most open democracy on the face of the Earth.

So today when I think of these two great events, I give thanks to all of those who made the supreme sacrifice, and all of those who wore the uniform of the United States military. I start this day as I do every day, thanking God for my life and veterans for my way of life.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 3075, THE MEDICARE BALANCED BUDGET REFINEMENT ACT

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

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Balanced Budget Refinement Act, H.R. 3075. This bill is vital to the successful continuation of Medicare as we know it. This bill restores some of the changes that were made to the Medicare program back in 1997 under the Balanced Budget Act.

In the district that I serve, two Medicare+Choice providers announced that they would terminate services for seniors. The beneficiaries were understandably devastated. I held a town hall meeting on this subject with the beneficiaries, with the Medicare+Choice providers, and with the government. The response was overwhelming.