

PRAYER

The Reverend Douglas Tanner, Executive Director, Faith and Politics Institute, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we come before You this day aware that the 2 weeks since this House last convened have brought us into a new season. We have gathered with our families to celebrate Passover and Easter. The Tidal Basin has been graced by cherry blossoms and beavers, and buds have broken from the trees. We thank You that even on a cool, cloudy, windy day like this we can trust that in Washington the winter is past and spring has come.

We pray especially today for those in Balkan lands for whom the past 2 weeks have been so different, for those who have lived and continue to live every minute in terror, finding it hard to trust that anything is past except for their dreams, or that anything is coming except for more deprivation, despair, violence, and terror.

As we face this harsh reality, Lord, deliver us from shallowness and pomposity. Grant us the grace to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GIBBONS 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 laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 26, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the Permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 26, 1999 at 11:00 a.m.

that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 171.

that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 193

that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 705

that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1212

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair desires to announce that pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolutions on Thursday, March 25, 1999:

H.R. 774, To amend the Small Business Act to change the conditions of participation and provide an authorization of appropriations for the Women's Business Center program;

H.R. 808, To extend for 6 additional months the period for which Chapter 12 of Title 11, United States Code, is reenacted;

H.J. Res. 26, Providing for the reappointment of Barber B. Conable, Jr. as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution;

H.J. Res. 27, Providing for the reappointment of Dr. Hanna H. Gray as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution;

H.J. Res. 28, Providing for the reappointment of Wesley S. Williams, Jr., as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; and

S. 643, To authorize the Airport Improvement program for 2 months, and for other purposes;

And Speaker pro tempore WOLF signed the following enrolled bills on Wednesday, March 31, 1999:

H.R. 171, To authorize appropriations for the Coastal Heritage Trail Route in New Jersey, and for other purposes;

H.R. 193, To designate a portion of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System;

H.R. 705, To make technical corrections with respect to the monthly reports submitted by the Postmaster General on official mail of the House of Representatives; and

H.R. 1212, To protect producers of agricultural commodities who applied for a crop revenue coverage plus supplemental endorsement for the 1999 crop year.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2501, the Chair announces his appointment of the following Member of the House to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission:

Mr. BLUNT of Missouri.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9355(a), the Chair announces his appointment of the following Members of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy:

Mr. YOUNG, Florida; and

Mr. HEFLEY, Colorado.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 194(a), the Chair announces his appointment of the following Member of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy:

Mrs. JOHNSON, Connecticut.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 1295(h), the Chair announces his appointment of the following Member of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy:

Mr. KING, New York.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), the Chair announces his appointment of the following Members of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy:

Mr. TAYLOR, North Carolina; and
Mrs. KELLY, New York.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 6968(a), the Chair announces his appointment of the following Members of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy:

Mr. SKEEN, New Mexico;
Mr. GILCHREST, Maryland;
Mr. TANNER, Tennessee; and
Mr. HOYER, Maryland.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, Democratic Leader:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER,
Washington, DC, April 12, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the provisions of section 4 of the Congressional Award Act (section 803, title 2, United States Code) I herewith appoint the following named persons to the Congressional Award National Board of Directors:

Representative Carlos A. Romero-Barceló of Puerto Rico,
Dolores M. Beilenson of California,
Timothy J. Keating of Pennsylvania,
Robert J. Kelley of Missouri.

Sincerely,

RICHARD A. GEPHARDT,
Democratic Leader.