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WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1999

No. 51

House of Representatives

The House met at 10:00 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HEFLEY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 14, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOEL HEFLEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

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

Your word tells us, O gracious God, that we need not walk alone through the trials or shadows of life, and it reminds us that Your spirit gives us strength no matter how great the danger or how deep the sorrow. At this time when people suffer or face peril because of conflict and strife, we earnestly pray that all violence cease and a measure of justice be sustained. May people of goodwill realize the blessings of accord, and may peace dwell not only in our hearts but among the nations of the world. Let justice roll down as waters and righteousness like an everflowing stream. 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.

Mr. BENTSEN. 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. BENTSEN. 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. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 343, nays 53, answered "present" 1, not voting 36, as follows:

[Roll No. 83]
YEAS—343

Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehkert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono

Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clayton
Clement
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Cook
Cooksey
Coyne
Cramer
Crowley
Cubin

Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Fossella
Fowler

Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoefel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hyde
Inslie
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick

Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kuykendall
LaFalce
Lampson
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCollum
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Obey
Ortiz

Ose
Owens
Packard
Paul
Payne
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Regula
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Roemer
Rogers
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryan (KS)
Salmon
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Schakowsky
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spence

□ 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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H1975

Spratt	Thurman	Watt (NC)
Stabenow	Tiahrt	Watts (OK)
Stark	Tierney	Waxman
Stearns	Toomey	Weldon (FL)
Stenholm	Towns	Weldon (PA)
Stump	Traficant	Wexler
Sununu	Turner	Weygand
Talent	Udall (CO)	Whitfield
Tanner	Udall (NM)	Wicker
Tauscher	Upton	Wilson
Taylor (NC)	Vento	Wolf
Terry	Walden	Woolsey
Thomas	Walsh	Wu
Thornberry	Wamp	Wynn
Thune	Watkins	Young (FL)

NAYS—53

Aderholt	Gutknecht	Pastor
Bonior	Hilliard	Peterson (MN)
Borski	Hulshof	Pickett
Brady (PA)	Hutchinson	Ramstad
Brown (CA)	Johnson, E. B.	Rogan
Chenoweth	Klink	Sabo
Clay	Kucinich	Schaffer
Clyburn	Larson	Serrano
Costello	Lee	Strickland
DeFazio	Lewis (GA)	Stupak
Engel	LoBiondo	Sweeney
English	McDermott	Tancredo
Filner	McNulty	Taylor (MS)
Ford	Menendez	Thompson (CA)
Gephardt	Moran (KS)	Thompson (MS)
Gibbons	Oberstar	Visclosky
Green (TX)	Pallone	Weller
Gutierrez	Pascrell	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Carson

NOT VOTING—36

Abercrombie	Hastings (FL)	Porter
Bateman	Hinchev	Rangel
Becerra	Klecicka	Rodriguez
Conyers	LaHood	Rohrabacher
Cox	Lantos	Scarborough
Crane	McCarthy (NY)	Sherwood
Davis (IL)	McCrery	Tauzin
Dicks	Metcalf	Velazquez
Dixon	Myrick	Waters
Doyle	Neal	Weiner
Dunn	Olver	Wise
Fattah	Oxley	Young (AK)

□ 1021

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HEFLEY). Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. REYNOLDS 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 bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 148. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds.

S. 380. An act to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 one-minutes on each side.

REPEAL THE INCOME TAX

(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, it is that time of year again: Tax season. Let us be honest, our current tax system is economically destructive, impossibly complex, overly intrusive, unprincipled, dishonest, unfair and inefficient. This madness must stop. That is why I will reintroduce the tax freedom bill today that will repeal the 16th Amendment to the Constitution and deny the Congress the ability to lay and collect taxes on income, except when the Congress declares war.

We must replace the current tax system based on a vision of America that places the individual, not the government, at the center of society. My bill to replace the 16th Amendment brings us one step closer to replacing the current system and restoring freedom to the American taxpayer. It is way past time to enact a tax system that embraces freedom for all Americans.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues in the Blue Dog Caucus, especially the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER), for their leadership in helping to bring campaign finance reform to the forefront of the agenda in this session.

I also want to thank the freshman Democrats who have been so helpful with this effort, and I want to thank the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN), who have been the leaders of making this legislation come together.

This is a bipartisan issue which demands bipartisan action. Both Democrats and Republicans support the Shays-Meehan reform bill to help restore sanity to our system of political campaigns. It is a first step but we need to start somewhere, and that place is here and that place is now and that time is now.

Unfortunately, the Republican leadership of the House for the past 2 years has been dedicated to stifling these bipartisan efforts to clean up political campaigns. First it was death by amendment. Now it is death by delay. Well, it is now or never. In baseball, wait until next year is the perpetual excuse for coming in last. Wait until August is another excuse for why the

House will not pass campaign finance reform again this year.

If we want to clean up the political campaign system, now is the time and here is the chance. I urge every Member, both Democrat and Republican, to sign this discharge petition. It is a fair petition. It is a fair rule. Let us get campaign reform done now, not later.

NO CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF LIBERALS TO WAGE WAR

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I have no confidence in the ability of liberals to wage war. That is the truth that most of us believe and cannot deny. From the nonsensical way that Johnson and McNamara fought the Vietnam War, to Carter's humiliation in Iran, to our latest misadventure in Kosovo, the truth is there for all to see.

The liberal mentality simply is not equipped to deal with the harsh realities of war. They do not understand the first thing about using military force, about protecting America's national interest or about what is required to defeat a determined enemy. Vietnam, Iran hostages and now Bill Clinton's war in Kosovo. The liberals voted against using military force in the Persian Gulf when U.S. interests were clearly at stake, but where U.S. interests are not at stake, such as Haiti or Kosovo, then they are for military force.

This is liberalism in the full glory of its contradictions and wrongheadedness. I only can pray that the soldiers, sailors and aviators who must put their lives on the line do not suffer for the naivete and the incompetence of the armchair liberals in this administration.

DEMOCRATS WANT MEANINGFUL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, today Democrats are lining up for reform. We have had enough. We have had enough Republican leadership excuses. We have had enough delay. We want meaningful campaign finance reform.

We are here lined up to sign a discharge petition to discharge all of the proposals, by both Republicans and Democrats, for a full and fair debate on the floor of this House.

□ 1030

Last year the Republicans delayed as long as they could until this discharge petition was approved. They finally had to bring the bill to the floor, and then they tried to filibuster it to death with amendments.

When that filibuster failed, every single member of the Republican leadership, including the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT) voted no