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No. 76

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 5, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JUDY BIGGERT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from all eternity and forever.

Happy the man who cares for the poor and the lowly; the Lord will save him in time of trouble. The Lord protects him and gives him life, making him treasured throughout the land.

The Lord will help him even on his sickbed surrounding him with loving care. The Lord will keep him and preserve him until the Lord's full work is accomplished.

To be loved and respected from all corners shields the just man from his enemies. Because one found integrity, he is permitted to stand before the Lord forever.

It is friendship that merits loyalty; friends in their laughter gain perspective.

In the loss of a dear colleague, Lord, this psalm comes to mind; This Chamber and this country, so blessed in John Joseph Moakley, finds voice:

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel from all eternity and forever.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House her 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. GEORGE MILLER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California 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,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 29, 2001.

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 May 26, 2001 at 1:45 p.m.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 139.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 146.

Appointments:

Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress

Parents Advisory Council on Youth Drug Abuse

Commission on Indian and Native Alaskan Health Care

Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

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,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 4, 2001.

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 May 31, 2001 at 4:23 p.m.

That the Senate agreed to conference report H.R. 1836.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker pro tempore signed the following enrolled bill on Friday, June 1, 2001:

H.R. 581, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use funds appropriated for wildland fire management in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001, to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to facilitate the interagency cooperation required under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 in connection with wildland fire management.

And the Speaker signed the following enrolled bill on Monday, June 4, 2001:

H.R. 1836, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 104 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2002.

□ 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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H2851

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 25, 2001.

Hon. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER HASTERT: I am writing to formally notify you that I will be retiring from my position as the United States Representative for Florida's First Congressional district, effective September 6, 2001. A similar letter has been sent to the Honorable Jeb Bush, Governor of the State of Florida.

Sincerely,

JOE SCARBOROUGH,
Member of Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 25, 2001.

Hon. JEB BUSH,
The Capitol,
Tallahassee, FL.

DEAR GOVERNOR BUSH: I am writing to inform you that I am irrevocably resigning my position as United States Representative for the First District of Florida, effective September 6, 2001. A similar letter has been sent to the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

I appreciate your friendship and the support you have shown Northwest Florida.

Sincerely,

JOE SCARBOROUGH,
Member of Congress.

TAX CUTS

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, last week Congress passed the biggest tax relief package since the start of the Reagan administration. Every American taxpayer is going to get a refund check in the mail this summer. Over the coming years, rates will decline, the death tax will be repealed, the marriage tax penalty will be partially fixed, we will be able to put more in our retirement plans, and be able to deduct more for the cost of college education. This is real help for real Americans.

But the American taxpayers deserve to know that there were a lot of big-spending liberals who thought they did not deserve these tax cuts. Even though we have been running multi-billion dollar surpluses for several years, some people in Washington did everything they could to stop this tax relief. In fact, the only way to get it done at all was to use what we call "budget reconciliation," which cannot be filibustered in the other body and requires only 51 votes since they could not get to 60.

But budget reconciliation only lasts for 10 years. Before the 10 years is up, Congress must extend the tax relief. I hope that Congress will do that. In the

meantime, I hope all the big spenders in Congress who voted against this cut will donate their \$300 refund check back to the Treasury.

WE NEED THE PRESIDENT'S VI-
SION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT,
NOT JUST A VISIT TO ANOTHER
NATIONAL PARK

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, Americans of all political stripes place a very high value on the protection of our environment and public lands.

President Bush recently visited the Everglades National Park in Florida, and previous to that he visited Sequoia National Park in California. These photo opportunities are intended to portray an image of a President who cares about the environment. But these Presidential visits are inadequate; and they are also inaccurate because, while the President visits two of our most treasured parks, he and his administration are planning to throw open the door of the public lands of this Nation to increased drilling, mining, logging, road building and contamination of these very public lands.

Madam Speaker, these public lands are every bit as important as the national parks that the President has visited. His administration continues to threaten the very stewardship of those public lands and opportunities for American citizens to enjoy them not only throughout the summer months but year around. His administration continues to threaten the Sierra Nevada Conservation Plan, which is about the integrity and the survival of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and the forest in those mountains in California.

Madam Speaker, the President refuses to move forward on the Giant Sequoia National Monument proposal.

Mr. President, what we need is your vision for the environment, not just another visit.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address the Chair as they address the House.

HELP IS ON THE WAY

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Madam Speaker, national tax freedom day, that day that we start working for ourselves instead of the tax collector, fell on May 4 this year, and that is the latest date in history according to the tax foundation.

Many Nevadans found this to be not only unbelievable, but unconscionable.

It is unconscionable that the typical and average American family pays more than 38 percent of its income in taxes. That is more than it spends on food, clothing, and shelter combined.

Madam Speaker, over the past 8 years, personal income of Americans has grown by more than \$2.8 trillion, yet nearly half of all this new wealth went to pay tax bills. Is it any wonder why Americans feel they are working harder than ever but cannot seem to get ahead? Thankfully, this Congress listened to Nevada families and their pleas for help in paying this crushing tax burden, and soon Nevadans will be getting some much-needed relief in the form of a tax rebate check; and may I say, it is about time.

Madam Speaker, Nevadans, and indeed all Americans, should not be working for Washington; Washington should be working for Nevadans and Americans. Mailing out those tax rebate checks is simply the first step in putting working Americans ahead of government bureaucracy.

AMERICA'S FIRST FEMALE PROM
KING

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Madam Speaker, a high school in Washington has crowned America's first female prom king. No joke. Now, I do not care what anyone's sexual preference is, but enough is enough. What is next: beauty pageants for cross-dressers? Think about it. America has guns, drugs, rape, and even murder in school, and now a lesbian is a prom king.

If that is not enough to titillate J. Edgar Hoover, prayer and God are still not allowed in America's schools. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. A Nation that allows lesbians to be prom kings in our schools, but denies the Lord access to our schools, is a Nation headed for stone-cold disaster.

I yield back one ray of hope there is a new policy at Ferndale High School: all future prom kings shall be male. Hallelujah.

□ 1415

THE IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCE
AND MATH EDUCATION

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, high school seniors from all over the United States will be graduating and receiving their diplomas at this time of year. Recently I have been named chairman of the Subcommittee on Research in the Committee on Science. I have told the administration as we talk about national security that I think probably the second greatest threat to national security is where we