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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Rabbi Carole Meyers, Chaplain, Temple Sinai of Glendale, Glendale, California, offered the following prayer:

I am honored to be here this morning with you courageous leaders of our country to join together in prayer. It takes courage to pray meaningfully in the wake of events shaping our lives.

It is not that we do not turn to God, we do. We come with our praise and with our entreaties, but we strain to hear an answer, to sense God's presence radiating back to us, over the abyss that grief and fear have created.

Shall we this morning, just for a moment, stop speaking to God, asking God, about God, entreating God, and instead make an effort to find once again that experience of God's presence that grounds our faith.

Come with me to that place. Perhaps it was when you witnessed the birth of your child, new life so precious and pure, perhaps when you saw your soul reflected back at you in the eyes of someone whose love was infinite. Perhaps in the tangle of pain and darkness when somehow there was a presence to call, to let you know you would move forward. Perhaps when a piece of music shook you to your core, bringing an exquisite awareness of the depth of human experience.

Perhaps when you truly saw the miracle of nature surrounding us, the sun rising and setting, day after day of nature in its magnificent order, there was a moment when you knew that an Other exists before whom we stand in awe and whose greatness we strive to reflect in the actions of our lives.

Eternal God, be with us as we move through this time of uncertainty. Help us know that we can lend Your presence and use our lives to reflect it. Then we will have the faith to bring light and joy, peace and comfort, justice and goodness to this magnificent world God has created. 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.

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. McNULTY. 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. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. SAWYER 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.

WELCOMING RABBI CAROLE MEYERS

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in welcoming today's distinguished guest chaplain, Rabbi Carole Meyers, and thank her for leading

the House in prayer. As Rabbi Emerita of Temple Sinai in Glendale, California, Rabbi Meyers has distinguished herself as a community leader.

Over the past 15 years, Rabbi Meyers has served at Glendale's Temple Sinai, one of the most thriving synagogues in the area. During her tenure at Temple Sinai, the congregation nearly doubled in size, boosting its education programs for both children and adults.

Rabbi Meyers significantly raised the profile of the temple through her extensive community involvement. Over the past few years, Rabbi Meyers has been involved with Habitat for Humanity and the Glendale Community Foundation. She served on the Mayor's Task Force on Hate Crimes, helping to craft a citywide response plan to hate crimes. Rabbi Meyers also trained as a chaplain for the Glendale Police Department and helped to create an annual AIDS Awareness Prayer Service with other Glendale religious leaders.

Though Rabbi Meyers retired this past June in order to devote more time to her family, her influence on her community can still be felt. Today, especially in this time of national tragedy, the warmth of her words have indeed found a new meaning.

We are all proud to welcome Rabbi Meyers here today as a guest chaplain.

SUPPORTING THE WORDS CAN HEAL RESOLUTION

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage my colleagues to join the "Words Can Heal" resolution that is being sponsored by the Jerusalem Fund.

The "Words Can Heal" campaign promotes the value and practice of ethical speech nationwide. The ability to voice

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one's views freely without negative repercussions is inherent to our democracy. As we here in Congress surely understand firsthand, words have impact.

This campaign draws attention to the way we speak to our friends, to our family, neighbors and colleagues. Today, more than ever, it is essential that we come together as a Nation, open our arms with benevolence, and use our words to heal ourselves.

By participating in the Jerusalem Fund's "Words Can Heal" campaign, we can all benefit by using language to come together as a Nation and as a people.

Please join me and Rabbi Irwin Katsof from the Jerusalem Fund in co-sponsoring House Resolution 235, the "Words Can Heal" campaign, which will be on the floor this coming week.

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VETERANS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

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

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, it is a real privilege to follow the gentlewoman from Florida in her message. This weekend, all of us will head home and we will go out and we will speak to and about our veterans. It is a time to follow the leadership that the gentlewoman from Florida is advocating and it is a time to do something even more.

As we go and speak to our veterans, we have an opportunity to act on something that most of us supported in the 106th Congress, and that is the Veterans Oral History Project. It is a part of the American Folk Life Series of the Library of Congress and it is an opportunity for us to take part in the gathering of American history, in telling the stories of American veterans as all of us seek to honor those who have made sacrifices on behalf of this Nation.

It is a chance not for us to speak to them, rather, for them to speak to all Americans and tell the stories that are a part of our history. I would urge all of us to go home this weekend, and in addition to the speeches that we make, to take the opportunity, with a tape recorder, to listen to the words of those who have given so much to our Nation.

SUPPORT NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE FOR DEAF AND BLIND

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

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, the President has stated his goal: Leave no child behind. He did not say leave no child behind that can hear or see, he said leave no child behind, and that includes the thousands of students striving to earn a college degree who are deaf or blind or sensory impaired.

When we talk about improving education, we have got to improve it across the board. We have to give it to every student. We have to give them an opportunity to learn regardless of their disabilities. Students without these challenges have the option of attending a junior college to ease them into the college environment. No such option exists for these deaf and blind students.

Today, I am introducing legislation that supports these students with the establishment of the first National Junior College for the Deaf and Blind in conjunction with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind.

Mr. Speaker, let us level the playing field. Give these students trained professionals, a residential facility, and a means for modern-day distance learning. We can help to provide that all-important 2-year college stepping stone to the 4-year collegiate level and ensure valuable preparation for successful employment.

I ask all of my colleagues to support the first National Junior College for the Deaf and Blind.

THE DISAPPEARING \$20 BILLION

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is human nature: When tragedy strikes, most people want to help you right away. But you can tell your true friends by who still wants to help as time goes by. Will the real friends of New York please stand up.

The World Trade Center is still smoldering and the Federal Government is already wavering. On September 18, the administration authorized \$40 billion, \$20 billion to fight terrorism and \$20 billion for disaster relief, primarily for New York. But the budget office has allocated only \$9.8 billion for New York. They offer vague assurances that we will get the money eventually. Well, we cannot wait for eventually.

They say we cannot spend it anyway. Well, just ask New York's devastated businesses and unemployed workers. As September 11 recedes into the past, so is the administration's resolve to help New York, and that is unacceptable.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

(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, workers and farmers in Pennsylvania sold products ranging from chemicals to foodstuffs to pharmaceuticals to over 200 countries last year. Those sales added up to over \$24 billion and supported well over a quarter-million jobs. I shudder to think that the absence of trade promotion authority, or TPA, could jeopardize these jobs and the families they support. Without TPA, American negotiators will not have the authority

they need to make sure our foreign markets will not be undercut or blocked by our competitors.

H.R. 3005 is a bipartisan compromise TPA bill. We need to pass this legislation to make sure that the U.S. negotiators are on equal footing with their foreign competitors. If we fail to renew trade promotion authority, we will be failing to fight for the American workers who depend on exports, and we will be failing to fight for the countless new opportunities that the global marketplace will provide for our workers in the future.

America's workers are the world's most productive. The only thing that can beat us is unfair foreign trade barriers designed to eliminate our competitive edge. So let us support the trade promotion authority bill.

FREEDOM AND OUR NATION'S VETERANS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I speak today of our freedom. Our freedom has been girded and guarded by those who have served in the United States military. The ability for us to speak for or against has been protected by those in the United States military.

As we look toward honoring the veterans of our Nation, those who have served throughout the years, I rise to salute them and thank them for what they have done for us, giving us the privilege to travel about this country and to live in a wonderfully free and democratic nation. They have served us in times of war and in times of peace.

As a Representative of the veterans hospital in my own congressional district, when our city experienced the devastation of Tropical Storm Allison, we were very gratified that veterans gave up their beds in the hospitals to help those who were in need. We thank the veterans of America.

I support legislation that will allow us to listen to their oral history. This is a time that we honor them and applaud them and thank them for our freedom, which is tied directly to their existence. Thank you, veterans, and I thank those who serve in the United States military.

NATIONAL PARKS WEEKEND FOR UNITY, HOPE AND HEALING

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

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the upcoming Veterans holiday weekend, I wanted to remind all Americans of the wonderful and rare opportunity before them.

As my colleagues may recall, Mr. Speaker, following the tragic events of