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No. 83

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Most Reverend Oscar H. Lipscomb, Archbishop of Mobile, Mobile, Alabama, offered the following prayer:

O God, our shield and defender, ancient of days, pavilioned in the splendor of Your creation and girded with the praise of Your children, be with us now as we pray for this House and all parts of our government and Nation.

Our troubled times teach us that of ourselves peace and security rests uneasy and incomplete. Help us with the wisdom and strength sought by Your servant Solomon as he set out to govern the people You committed to his care.

Touch all our hearts and change them after the model offered us by Your Son: "As I have loved you, love one another." Then may there be realized in our land the vision of the prophet Isaiah: "There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the Earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as water covers the sea." 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. FOLEY. 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. FOLEY. 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. 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 352, nays 50, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 239]
YEAS—352

Abercrombie	Chabot	Frank	John	Miller, Gary	Sawyer
Ackerman	Clay	Frelinghuysen	Johnson (CT)	Miller, George	Saxton
Akin	Clayton	Frost	Johnson (IL)	Miller, Jeff	Schakowsky
Allen	Clement	Gallegly	Johnson, Sam	Mink	Schiff
Andrews	Clyburn	Ganske	Jones (NC)	Mollohan	Schrock
Armey	Coble	Gekas	Kanjorski	Moore	Scott
Baca	Collins	Gephardt	Kaptur	Moran (VA)	Sensenbrenner
Bachus	Combest	Gibbons	Keller	Morella	Serrano
Baker	Condit	Gilchrest	Kelly	Murtha	Sessions
Ballenger	Cooksey	Gillmor	Kennedy (RI)	Myrick	Shadegg
Barcia	Coyne	Gilman	Kerns	Nadler	Shaw
Barr	Cramer	Gonzalez	Kildee	Napolitano	Sherman
Barrett	Crenshaw	Goode	Kind (WI)	Nethercutt	Sherwood
Bartlett	Crowley	Goodlatte	King (NY)	Northup	Shimkus
Barton	Cubin	Goss	Kirk	Norwood	Shows
Bass	Culberson	Graham	Kleckzka	Nussle	Simmons
Becerra	Cunningham	Granger	Knollenberg	Obey	Skeen
Bentsen	Davis (CA)	Graves	Kolbe	Ortiz	Skelton
Bereuter	Davis (FL)	Green (TX)	LaFalce	Osborne	Smith (MI)
Berkley	Davis (IL)	Green (WI)	LaHood	Ose	Smith (WA)
Berman	Davis, Jo Ann	Greenwood	Lampson	Owens	Solis
Berry	Davis, Tom	Grucci	Langevin	Oxley	Souder
Biggert	Deal	Gutierrez	Lantos	Pallone	Spratt
Bilirakis	DeGette	Hall (OH)	Larson (CT)	Pascarella	Stearns
Bishop	Delahunt	Hall (TX)	Latham	Pastor	Stenholm
Blagojevich	DeLauro	Hansen	LaTourette	Paul	Sullivan
Blumenauer	DeLay	Harman	Leach	Payne	Sununu
Blunt	DeMint	Hastings (FL)	Lee	Pelosi	Tanner
Boehlert	Deutsch	Hastings (WA)	Levin	Pence	Tauscher
Boehner	Diaz-Balart	Hayes	Lewis (CA)	Peterson (PA)	Tauzin
Bonilla	Dicks	Hayworth	Lewis (KY)	Petri	Taylor (NC)
Bonior	Dingell	Herger	Linder	Phelps	Terry
Bono	Doggett	Hill	Lipinski	Pickering	Thomas
Boozman	Dooley	Hildeary	Lofgren	Pitts	Thornberry
Boswell	Doolittle	Hinojosa	Lowey	Platts	Thune
Boucher	Dreier	Hobson	Lucas (KY)	Pombo	Thurman
Boyd	Duncan	Hoeffel	Lucas (OK)	Portman	Tiahrt
Brady (TX)	Dunn	Hoekstra	Hayes	Tiberi	
Brown (FL)	Edwards	Holden	Luther	Price (NC)	
Brown (SC)	Ehlers	Honda	Lynch	Pryce (OH)	
Bryant	Emerson	Hooley	Maloney (CT)	Toomey	
Burr	Engel	Horn	Maloney (NY)	Putnam	
Burton	Eshoo	Hostettler	Quinn	Towns	
Buyer	Etheridge	Houghton	Radanovich	Quinn	
Callahan	Evans	Hoyer	Rahall	Rader	
Calvert	Everett	Hulshof	Velazquez	Rangel	
Camp	Farr	Hunter	Walden	Vitter	
Cannon	Fattah	Inslee	Walsh	Warden	
Cantor	Ferguson	Issa	Waxman	Wamp	
Capito	Flake	Istook	Watkins (OK)	Watkins (CA)	
Capps	Fletcher	Jackson (IL)	Riley	Watson (CA)	
Cardin	Foley	Jackson-Lee	McCollum	Watson (NC)	
Carson (IN)	Forbes	(TX)	McCrary	Rodriguez	
Carson (OK)	Ford	Jefferson	McGovern	Watts (OK)	
Castle	Fossella	Jenkins	McHugh	Roemer	
			McIntyre	Rogers (KY)	
			McKeon	Rogers (MI)	
			Rohrabacher	Whitfield	
			Roeper	Wicker	
			Rothman	Wilson (NM)	
			Royal-Allard	Wilson (SC)	
			Ryan (WI)	Woolsey	
			Sanders	Young (FL)	
			Miller, Dan	Sandlin	

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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NAYS—50

Aderholt	Johnson, E. B.	Sanchez
Baird	Jones (OH)	Schaffer
Baldwin	Kennedy (MN)	Slaughter
Borski	Kucinich	Stark
Brady (PA)	Larsen (WA)	Strickland
Brown (OH)	LoBiondo	Stupak
Capuano	McDermott	Sweeney
Costello	McNulty	Taylor (MS)
DeFazio	Menendez	Thompson (CA)
English	Moran (KS)	Thompson (MS)
Filner	Neal	Udall (CO)
Gutknecht	Oberstar	Udall (NM)
Hart	Olver	Visclosky
Hefley	Otter	Waters
Hinchey	Peterson (MN)	Weller
Holt	Ramstad	Wu
Israel	Sabo	

NOT VOTING—32

Baldacci	Isakson	Smith (NJ)
Chambliss	Kingston	Smith (TX)
Conyers	Lewis (GA)	Stump
Cox	McInnis	Tancredo
Crane	Pomeroy	Traficant
Cummings	Roukema	Weiner
Doyle	Royce	Weldon (PA)
Ehrlich	Rush	Wexler
Gordon	Ryun (KS)	Wynn
Hilliard	Shays	Young (AK)
Hyde	Simpson	

□ 1028

Mr. KERNS changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Will the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BALDWIN 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. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed concurrent resolutions of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 110. Concurrent resolution honoring the heroism and courage displayed by airline flight attendants on a daily basis.

S. Con. Res. 114. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding North Korean refugees in China and those who are returned to North Korea where they face torture, imprisonment, and execution.

□ 1030

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO PRESIDENT'S EXPORT COUNCIL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Without objection, and pursuant to Executive Order 12131, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the President's Export Council:

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania;

Mr. PICKERING of Mississippi;

Mr. HAYES of North Carolina;

Mr. INSLEE of Washington; and
Mr. WU of Oregon.
There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING EPILEPSY FOUNDATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA FOR DEDICATION TO PROMOTING COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF EPILEPSY

(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 rise today to recognize the Epilepsy Foundation of South Florida for its dedication to promoting a community awareness of this disorder, and for its work to improve the lives of individuals afflicted with this terrible disease.

Epilepsy affects 2.3 million Americans, and over 180,000 individuals develop epilepsy each year. In my area alone, over 60,000 people suffer from this disease. The foundation, however, believes that epilepsy should not keep people from achieving a productive life.

With this goal in mind, the foundation has raised funds to help provide medical evaluations, treatments, and employment training tailored to meet the needs of these individuals.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Epilepsy Foundation of South Florida for its use of innovative programs and services that improve the lives of so many in our community.

URGING STATE DEPARTMENT TO TAKE ACTION TO HELP BRING AMERICA'S ABDUCTED CHILDREN HOME

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, last week the Committee on Government Reform held a hearing on women and children who are being held in Saudi Arabia. It was an emotional hearing on a situation that unfortunately exists in countries all over the world, not just in the Middle East right now.

I have been telling the story of trying to help a father whose son is being held in Italy, one of our supposed closest friends. His son, Ludwig Koons, has been in Italy for 8 years and is being held in a pornographic compound by his abductor mother, and the Italian authorities and our State Department let it happen.

I applaud the gentleman from Indiana (Chairman BURTON) for bringing this issue to light in his strong statement to his committee. For years I have been working with left-behind parents who are trying to get their children back to where they belong. For years I have witnessed a State Department that does nothing tangible to help.

We need a State Department that fights for U.S. citizens, not an idle information agency. This issue is one

that none of us can afford to ignore. We need to be aware, and we need to put pressure on other countries that are not sending American children home.

American parents are asking for someone to take action and help them bring their children home. The State Department is not stepping up to the plate for Ludwig Koons or for anyone else. Bring our children home.

URGING IMMEDIATE ACTION ON INS REFORM

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, House rules prohibit me from urging the other body to act on pending legislation, so let me just take a moment to tell of a very important piece of legislation that left this Chamber some time ago, and that was INS reform.

Our borders are vulnerable. We have been picking up absconders who have orders against them to be deported, and yet they are not sent out of the country. We have potential terrorists living in our country, and the INS is in a shambles. We have asked, through this body, that this agency reorganize.

Somewhere between here and the other end of the building, legislation awaits action. We demand action on that bill, and we urge action on that bill for whoever is listening to this conversation. This is a critical issue. It is critical for the safety and security of this country, and I cannot fathom why we wait and delay getting that important piece of legislation to the President's desk for signature.

CUTTING FUNDING FOR A GROWING AMTRAK IS WORST POSSIBLE RESPONSE

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, as we speak this morning, the administration is distributing a statement that will cut ground out from underneath the efforts of Amtrak to deal with its \$200 million shortfall. They are ignoring the wishes of over 160 Members of this House who have joined with us, and a majority of the Senate, to support the bipartisan compromise that has been worked out by the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. CLEMENT).

We can long debate the merits of their destructive proposals to gut long runs across the country, to privatize the most profitable lines, and to abandon any semblance of a rail system in this country, but every Member should push back now to protect Amtrak.

The irony of our giving \$5 billion to the airlines after we give them \$11 billion in subsidy, despite declining passengers, yet we are going to cut Amtrak off when it is growing, is the