



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 148

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2002

No. 87

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend David E. Paul, Pastor, First United Methodist Church, Clewiston, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, we come to You with grateful hearts for the daily evidence of Your love. You are always with us. You are always available to us.

There are times, Lord, when we ignore You and Your guidance. Forgive us. Forgive us when we stray away from the ideals and goals You have given our great Nation. Enable us to forgive ourselves and each other.

We thank You, Lord, for Your guidance and Your love. We thank You for the trust our citizens have given these persons. This trust, along with Your presence, strengthens and enables them to have the courage to deal with the hard decisions that face them.

We pray for those today who need a special sense of divine love, whose lives need encouragement and peace.

Sustain our Nation and guide the House of Representatives as it seeks to do Your will.

In Christ's name, 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. GIBBONS. 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. GIBBONS. 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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 New York (Mr. McNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY 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 a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2621. An act to provide a definition of vehicle for purposes of criminal penalties relating to terrorist attacks and other acts of violence against mass transportation systems.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-170, the Chair on behalf of the Republican Leader, after consultation with the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Finance, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel—

Vicent Randazzo of Virginia, vice Stephanie Lee Smith, resigned; and

Katie Beckett of Iowa, for a term of four years.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DAVID E. PAUL

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to welcome Dr. David Paul and his wife, Judy, to the House Chamber this morning. I join my colleague, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), in this great honor.

Dr. Paul is a third generation Floridian. He was born in Miami, Florida, in 1946; and he is a graduate of Miami Senior High School and the University of Florida. Go Gators.

He is a true spiritual leader rooted in Florida.

An accomplished trombone player, Reverend Paul played with the Savannah Symphony Orchestra for a number of years before attending the Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, where he earned his master of divinity degree and doctor of divinity.

After 10 years in Kentucky, Dr. Paul again regained his senses and returned to Florida where he has served churches in Eustis, Groveland, Clewiston and Lake City.

I know the community in Clewiston was very sad to see Reverend Paul head to Lake City, but one community's loss is another's gain; and I am sure he will have the same impact in Lake City that he had for us in Clewiston.

RECOGNIZING THE STEP AHEAD TO SUCCESS FARMWORKER YOUTH PROGRAM

(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 recognize the Step Ahead to Success Farmworker Youth Program and congratulate the program's 2002 graduates. I want to especially commend the program's director, Maria Garza, and Miami-Dade County Manager Steve Shiver, whose tireless efforts have made this program a great success.

Since its inception in late 2000, the program has provided 275 at-risk young

□ 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.



Printed on recycled paper.

H3931

people from farmworker families with services to help develop their academic, social, and safety skills. In Miami-Dade, 50 young people have received leadership training and FCAT tutoring and have participated in several community service activities.

One amazing young man, Jose Rodriguez, came to the program with a 1.2 grade point average and was behind credits for graduation. But the program helped Jose to improve his grades, receive a stipend for financial help, graduate on time; and he will soon begin to serve our country upon finishing the Marine Corps basic training on July 27.

I want to thank all of the dedicated workers of the Farmworker Youth Program for their unending devotion to these children.

CODE ADAM

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I will digress again from my stories about Ludwig Koons, whom we desperately want returned from Italy to the United States where he is being held illegally, to talk about one of the scariest situations that a parent can experience when they are out shopping, perhaps they turn around and their child is not with them. In many cases they return in a matter of moments, but sometimes it can seem like an eternity. What if that son or daughter cannot be found? Or do stores have a system in place that can help protect their child from harm?

The answer is yes. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and I are joining together to urge Members to support a resolution to encourage retailers across the Nation to adopt a special child safety alert program known as Code Adam.

Code Adam works. Since 1994, it has been a powerful preventive tool against child abductions and lost children in more than 25,000 stores, making it the largest child safety program in the Nation. Code Adam is a special alert issued through the store's public address system when a customer reports a missing child. The measure was established in 1994 and named in the memory of 6-year-old Adam Walsh whose abduction from a Florida shopping mall and murder in 1981 brought the horror of child abduction to national attention.

We owe it to the kids of America to do everything that we can to ensure their safety. Join us in supporting this important resolution. Bring our children home.

COST OF GOVERNMENT DAY

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, June 29, this Saturday, will be Cost of Govern-

ment Day. What does that mean? It is the date on which the average American worker has earned enough gross income to pay off his or her share of tax and regulatory burdens imposed by all levels of government, either Federal, State or local. Currently Nevadans must work on average 179 days just to meet all the costs imposed by government.

There is some good news, however. Cost of Government Day falls 2 days earlier this year than last. In fact, this year it is earlier than it has been in 5 years, thanks to the tax relief we have just passed. Yet the cost of government is still substantially higher than it was during the 1980s when President Reagan led the Nation in bringing it down to a date in mid-June. Lowering the cost of government means more money in the hands of families, investors and entrepreneurs to reinvest in our economy.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue with the appropriations process, I call upon my colleagues to remain committed to reducing the cost of government to encourage economic growth and prosperity both at home and nationwide.

ECONOMIC REFORMS NEEDED

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Headline: "WorldCom Says Its Books Are Off By \$3.8 Billion." Hey, we all make mistakes. \$3.8 billion. The stock market is going to tank again today. The dollar is in a headlong decline. It seems like it would be a no-brainer for the House of Representatives to plug a few tax loopholes; mandate, mandate, by God, tough accounting reform; put a few of these crooked CEOs in jail, prosecute them, pursue them endlessly. Let us have real protection for stockholders, employees' pension funds. But no. It is needed, it seems like a no-brainer, but it ain't going to happen here because the House Republican leadership is too busy collecting campaign funds from some of the same firms and CEOs that are defrauding Americans and the stock market.

The American people need to focus and demand meaningful reforms before this disaster spirals totally out of control and drives the U.S. economy into a full blown financial crisis. No more sham reforms of pensions, no more sham prescription drug benefits, no more shams on the Tax Code. Let us do some meaningful work here and try and fix the problems with America's economy.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN

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

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4965, the par-

tial-birth abortion ban. Since 1995, a ban on this horrendous procedure has been passed three times by both the House and the Senate. Unfortunately, due to vetoes by President Clinton, the practice continues today. In the partial-birth abortion procedure, the baby is partially delivered before being brutally killed. The vast majority of partial-birth abortions are performed on healthy babies and healthy mothers. In fact, according to the American Medical Association, a partial-birth abortion is never necessary to protect the health of a woman and can even lead to additional serious health risks.

Although language banning this procedure has been struck down in the past by the Supreme Court, this new legislation has been tailored to address the Court's concerns.

Partial-birth abortion is infanticide. It is crucial that we act on the wishes of the American people and outlaw this dangerous and gruesome procedure once and for all.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, seniors cannot wait a minute longer for a prescription drug benefit under Medicare. Our seniors have been in need for far too long. Unfortunately, they will be very disappointed with the plan that will be presented by the Republican majority either this week or after the Fourth of July break. With its high deductibles, fluctuating premiums and gaps in coverage, the Republican plan hardly provides any benefit at all.

But the biggest problem with their plan is that it relies on the insurance industry to work. Their plan is the first step in their long-term effort that they have been trying to do to privatize Medicare.

Let us face it. The insurance industry just does not work for seniors. As we have seen with the Medicare+Choice program, private health insurance companies cannot make a profit with the health care demands of our seniors. That is why Medicare was created in 1965. It is foolish to believe that private drug plans will be able to do any better.

We need to take profit out of the equation and create a prescription drug plan that is run by Medicare, just like hospital visits and doctors visits. It is time to stop wasting money on failed experiments and put the money where we know it will work, in a drug benefit under Medicare.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION

(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, Congress now has an opportunity to put an end