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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 12, 2002.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD) for 5 minutes.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR PAUL AND SHEILA WELLSTONE

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Senator PAUL WELLSTONE and his wife, Sheila Wellstone. As we all know, the Wellstones perished in a tragic plane crash, along with their daughter Marcia, three staff members and two pilots on October 25, 2002.

It has been 18 days since that terrible day, and I am still overwhelmed by sadness at the tragic death of our dear friends whose plane went down in a northern Minnesota wetland near Eveleth.

I continue to join all Minnesotans in mourning our great loss. Minnesota has lost two compassionate and caring public servants. Both PAUL and Sheila will be sorely missed by all of us who knew and loved them.

As the Wellstones' son, David, said, "The words that come to mind about my dad are integrity, passion, fairness and intensity. When the going got rough, there was no one else you wanted in your corner." And about his mother, Sheila, David Wellstone said, "The words that come to mind are selfless, caring, loving, tenacious, proud and strong. She gave of herself like you would not believe."

Mr. Speaker, we all know that nobody fought harder or with greater passion for the underdog than PAUL and Sheila WELLSTONE. Senator WELLSTONE

dedicated his life to serving others, and he was a tireless advocate for people in need. PAUL WELLSTONE was a person of absolute integrity and was often willing to "go it alone" to stand up for what he believed was right.

Sheila Wellstone was a true champion for battered women and their families, and I was privileged to work with her on many important causes like the Violence Against Women Act and securing funding for Cornerstone, an emergency shelter for women and their children who are victims of domestic violence in the Twin Cities of Minnesota.

Senator WELLSTONE's best friend, Rick Kahn of Minnetonka, tells how PAUL used to say to him, "It is not enough to cling to principles, no matter how noble they may be, unless we are truly willing to risk everything."

While Senator WELLSTONE and I had our disagreements on many policy issues, there is no disagreeing that I lost my partner in the fight for people with chemical addiction. I will always, always be grateful to Senator WELLSTONE for his tireless and principled efforts to provide chemical dependency treatment for more Americans, and PAUL WELLSTONE was the Senate sponsor of our legislation to provide parity for chemical dependency treatment.

NOTICE

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Michael F. DiMario, *Public Printer*

□ 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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Even though we encountered strenuous resistance from special interests, Senator WELLSTONE was always truly willing to risk everything for our cause to help people with addiction. He was absolutely relentless in his efforts to push for parity, both for people with chemical addiction, and those suffering from mental illness. PAUL would call me frequently, and usually late at night, to breathlessly relay his progress in securing another cosponsor for our bill or to ask for advice; or usually to give advice. I came to absolutely cherish those late night phone calls from my friend.

As William Cope Moyers, vice president of the Hazelden Foundation in Minnesota, the world-renowned treatment center for chemically dependent people, put it, "Senator WELLSTONE was a passionate champion of what we do at Hazelden, and his loss is immeasurable."

Not only did we lose two deeply committed champions for battered women and people with addiction, and so many other Americans, I lost two of my dearest friends in that plane crash. I have been asked many times since the crash to share personal stories about the Wellstones. It has been absolutely heart warming to share personal memories about PAUL and Sheila with people throughout Minnesota.

And as we all know, in this body as well as the other body, PAUL WELLSTONE took his job very seriously, but he never, ever took himself too seriously. He had a great ability to poke fun at himself and bring people together. Even when he had policy disagreements with people, he always disagreed in an agreeable way, flashing that contagious Wellstone smile and slapping the person on the back in a warm, loving way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to finish this eulogy to our departed comrade and friend.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot entertain that request. The gentleman has been recognized for 5 minutes. The Chair would entertain a request from the gentleman to revise and extend his remarks in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The gentleman may complete his oral thought, and conclude his remarks.

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, one of my favorite recollections of PAUL was the time he was considering a campaign for President. Before he got on the airplane for our weekly commute back to Minnesota, I instructed all of the regular commuters to start humming "Hail to the Chief" as soon as PAUL got on the plane.

On cue, the passengers struck up a cord of "Hail to the Chief," and PAUL saw me sitting in the back and came right over to me and said "Ramstad, do not forget. I might be only 5 feet 5 and you are 6 feet 3, but don't ever forget I was a wrestler and you were only a basketball player."

That was PAUL WELLSTONE, always in good humor, always flashing that con-

tagious smile that reflected his love for all people.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, PAUL WELLSTONE was a person of great courage. Who can forget Senator WELLSTONE painfully walking around the Capitol bent nearly double from the back injuries he had sustained as a wrestler and from his struggles with multiple sclerosis, but always the first to run back into the kitchen of the Senate Dining Room to thank the cooks and dishwashers for his meals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all in this body to pause for a silent moment to pay our respects to PAUL and Sheila WELLSTONE, their daughter Marcia, and to the others who perished in that plane crash, Tom Lapic, Mary McEvoy, Will McLaughlin, Richard Conry and Michael Guess. My heart goes out to the family members left behind and to PAUL's dedicated staff. May you rest in peace, dear friends. Amen.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, it is ordered that the gentleman's written extension of his remarks will be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There was no objection.

REPUBLICANS HAVE HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 23, 2002, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the election is over and we know the results: The Republicans retained the majority in the House of Representatives and actually will now have the majority in the Senate; in fact, will control the Presidency and both Houses of Congress for quite a while.

I want to congratulate the Republican Party and the President, but I want to also point out that now that they are in charge of everything in Washington, they have a heavy responsibility, and one of the responsibilities they have is on an issue I talked about a great deal here on the floor of the House of Representatives and that is on health care reform.

There is absolutely no question that during the course of the campaign, and well before that, that I heard from my constituents about the need for a Medicare prescription drug benefit, about the fact that so many who now have health care insurance are losing their insurance and are afraid even if they have a job about whether or not that health insurance will continue to be affordable. And I also heard from a number of my constituents, and I know my colleagues did as well, about the need for HMO reform and a Patients' Bill of Rights.

I must say it disturbed me that during the course of the campaign that the Republicans, in talking about some of these issues, I think have done a spin on the issues in a fashion that was not

completely honest about what their agenda was on some of these very important issues, particularly the need to provide a prescription drug benefit and the need to make sure that the costs of prescription drugs would not continue to climb.

I want to point out in particular the effort on the part of the drug manufacturers, the prescription drug manufacturers, to influence the election, to spend a tremendous amount of money trying to convince the electorate that Republicans were really going to effectively address the issue of affordable prescription drugs. I think that much of it was advertising, trying to convince the public that the Republican plan was a good one when in fact it was not.

I have a clip that was in my local newspaper by the Associated Press on Saturday, November 9, and it says, "Drugmakers Glad for GOP Wins."

"Experts say the pharmaceutical industry's heavy spending in the election paid off in a Republican Congress that will certainly be more sympathetic to its views."

There is a quote that says, "'The pharmaceutical companies spent a lot of money and they are going to be looking for a payback,' said Stephen Schondelmeyer, director of the Pharmaceutical Research in Management Economics, or PRIME."

The article continues, "Investors are also optimistic. Pharmaceutical stocks rose an average of 2.25 percent in the 2 days following the election compared with a 1.12 percent increase in the overall market, according to Morningstar.com."

The problem is that the Republicans were also funneling money into so-called senior groups that were nothing more than a front for the pharmaceutical industry. The pharmaceutical industry was the ninth largest political contributor during the 2002 election; 73 percent of the \$18.1 million it doled out went to Republican candidates, according to the Center for Responsible Politics. It also reportedly funneled \$16 million to two senior citizen groups that ran ads supporting Republican candidates.

There is another article in the New York Times from Sunday, October 20, that talks about United Seniors Association, a conservative group, that acknowledges it receives financing from the drug industry's major trade group, and they ran ads in various districts, mostly saying Republicans had the right answers to the prescription drug problem facing seniors.

Now I say that the Republican answer to prescription drugs is basically to privatize Medicare. They wanted to give some money to seniors on the theory that they would take that money and go out and buy drug insurance in the private market.

The Democrats talked during the campaign, and continue to talk, about the need to just expand the existing Medicare program to provide a prescription drug benefit the same way we