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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

July 9, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVEN C. LATOURETTE 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: Father of Eternal Light, how shall we be measured in Your sight?

In a culture of achievement, we can carry over competitive attitudes to our relationship with You, O Lord, and to those we love or serve. But once we realize there is nothing we can do to make You love us more than You already do, we can be set free to simply love as You love, unconditionally, and serve others with abandonment. To give of ourselves in love and service is enough.

In a culture of success, the worst thing that can seem to happen is to fail, when all You ask of us, O Lord, is to do what is right, speak what is true, and give of ourselves in service of others without counting the cost.

Then the full measurement of ourselves will be not to impress others but to love others as You love and bring Your love to all we do in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore 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 pro tempore. 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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 pro tempore. 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 without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 218. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2634. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to support the planning, implementation, and evaluation of organized activities involving statewide youth suicide early intervention and prevention strategies, to provide funds for campus mental and behavioral health service centers, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 710, 2(A)(ii) of Public Law 105-277, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Parents Advisory Council on Youth Drug Abuse:

Laurens Tullock of Tennessee

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105-18, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader announces the appointment, made during the adjournment, of the following individual, to serve as a member of the National Commission on the Cost of Higher Education.

Clara M. Cotton of Massachusetts.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces that he will receive 5 one-minute speeches on each side.

RECOGNIZING T.J. PATTERSON

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

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a good friend, T.J. Patterson, who this week ended 20 years of service on Lubbock's City Council. T.J. served on 10 city councils and under five different mayors.

I had the pleasure of serving with councilman T.J. Patterson, and what I

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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learned in my 6 years in serving with T.J. is what most folks in Lubbock know, that he is a strong community leader and a tireless fighter for the values of the people he serves.

T.J. is a man of many firsts. After serving his country in Vietnam, T.J. became the first African American elected to the Lubbock City Council. He was also the first African American elected to be president of the Texas Municipal League. He founded the Texas Association of Black City Council Members and also the publication Southwest Digest.

During his 20 years of service, T.J. Patterson fought so hard for the things that matter to the citizens of Lubbock and Lubbock families: educating our kids and protecting Lubbock's youth from gangs and drugs.

The people in Lubbock and myself are grateful for T.J. Patterson's tireless service to his community.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 200th anniversary of the death of Alexander Hamilton, one of the Founding Fathers of the United States of America. Although everyone recognizes that he was a great American, it is not widely known that he was from St. Croix, my home.

Alexander Hamilton relocated to St. Croix from Nevis at the age of 9. There he developed the exceptional accounting, finance, and writing skills which later propelled his career. Many of Hamilton's later values and ideals were shaped by his experiences in St. Croix. A prime example was his opposition to slavery.

Best known as the first Secretary of the Treasury, Hamilton was a military man and a true statesman and public servant. Today in St. Croix where we walk where he lived and worked, we are celebrating his life. We celebrate too our invaluable contribution to the birth of this Nation and its early formative years.

On this anniversary of Hamilton's unfortunate death, let us remember him for his outstanding public service, his dedication to his country, and his contributions to our great history. However, when reflecting on his illustrious career, let us not forget that he is also a true Virgin Island son.

WE CONTINUE TO OVERSPEND

(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. Mr. Speaker, first I feel somewhat obligated to explain that my wife was not in town this week and I had to pick out my own tie.

As we approach more decisions on appropriations, this is the chart that I used on my Social Security presentation. I want to focus on the fact that 14 percent of total Federal spending is interest on the debt. That now amounts to about \$300 billion a year. So let us be conscious of the fact of how much we are spending and overspending.

This year we are going to spend about \$500 billion more than we are taking in. That is going to add to the debt. Interest rates are going up. We are putting a huge burden on our kids and our grandkids and future generations as this body and the Senate and the White House continue to overspend. Let us be frugal; let us realize that the imposition on our kids and grandkids is not fair and jeopardizes their future.

THEY STOLE THE VOTE

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

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the Congress voted to restore civil liberties yesterday, and then the Republican Party stole the election. Again.

In America, you get to vote once, but not in a Republican America. In Republican America, they vote again and again and again and again until the Republicans get the preordained outcome the administration decrees. That is what happened yesterday in this Chamber.

The House has gotten to the point where the U.N. will have to send election monitors to ensure the votes are not rigged in the elections on November 2.

The vote was rigged yesterday. Today, they can spy on your private lives. Today, they can see what you read, what you watch, and play with your mind about what you are thinking. Today, they say America is safer because everybody is afraid. America is only more vulnerable and less free.

Yesterday's vote was not about anything but controlling the American people's freedom to read and dissent. This administration wants to end dissent. They want no one to say anything about anything they do whether it is in a prison at Abu Ghraib or giving contracts to Halliburton or anything. That is what yesterday was about.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDING IS PRICELESS

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, the cost of basic and applied research is priceless. Most Federal Government R&D is by the military with a current goal for basic research of 3 percent of the DOD budget.

The National Science Foundation supports nearly 50 percent of the non-

medical basic research at our colleges and universities, including the University of Maryland, which comprises only 4 percent of Federal R&D spending.

Federal Government military R&D spending peaked in 1962 and declined beginning in 1965 until President Reagan's first term, during which R&D rose and surpassed 1962 levels and peaked in 1987. It then declined in 1993.

Beginning in fiscal year 1996, bipartisan support in the Congress supported increases in R&D above administration requests. Beginning in 2000 the downward trend was reversed. President Bush's increases have been increased further with bipartisan support.

The United States spends a smaller percentage of our GDP on R&D than any other major industrial power. That is the exact equivalent of a farmer eating his seed corn. Tomorrow's innovations come from today's R&D. America will remain the world's premiere military and economic leader only if we increase our spending on R&D.

REPUBLICAN HOUSE LEADERSHIP CONTINUES TO ABUSE ITS POWER

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we saw another example of how the Republican House leadership continues to abuse its power. The gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) offered an amendment to an appropriations bill that would have blocked a controversial provision in the PATRIOT Act.

At the end of the 15 minutes of voting time, the Sanders amendment looked well on its way to victory with 20 Republicans voting with the majority of the Democrats. But the Republican leadership would not give the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) a victory and refused to gavel the vote. Despite the fact that no more Members were still waiting to vote, the Republican leadership left the vote open an additional 20 minutes. What were they doing during these 20 minutes? They were exerting intense strong-arm pressure on their own Republican colleagues who had the audacity to vote against the leadership.

The Republican leadership finally threatened enough Republicans to defeat the amendment. Yesterday's outrageous action was just another example of the Republican leadership's win-at-all-costs approach at running this House.

The gentleman from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) played by the rules yesterday. Unfortunately, the Republican leadership long ago threw the rules out the window in this House. I conclude with the words chanted by many of my Democratic colleagues during the 20 minute delay: shame, shame on the Republican leadership.