

to deal with times of adversity with a certain calmness and deepening hope.

For You are our saving Lord now and forever. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HAYWORTH 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.

TWO QUESTIONS FOR DAN RATHER

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, earlier this morning, I came to this well reflecting on the difference between holding public office and being engaged in public service. Public office is not a prerequisite for public service. Neither, Mr. Speaker, is public office a prerequisite for holding the public trust.

It is in that spirit that I again come to the well to cite apparently falsified documents utilized by CBS News in portraying the service record in the Texas Air National Guard of our Commander in Chief.

Mr. Speaker, two questions need to be answered: What did Dan Rather know, and when did he know it?

Understand, we believe in the first amendment; Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of the press. All we ask, Mr. Speaker, is that Dan Rather answer those two questions.

SUPPORT NEW TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

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

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, America's roads are coming to a standstill because of ever-increasing congestion. The latest research shows that the average American wastes almost 2 full days a year in traffic. Measured in dollars, the cost of congestion is now \$63 billion per year. My own hometown of Los Angeles is again ranked as the most congested city in America, with congestion delays and costs twice the national average.

With this congestion causing such a drag on our economy, the American

public might expect their Congress to be rushing to resolve such a problem. But we are now almost 2 years past the deadline for passing a new transportation bill, and the administration is still blocking Congress from passing new transportation funding. The issue is, as always, money. The President, after having racked up the largest deficits in American history, is fighting to block this needed investment in roads and transit.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents are as fed up with government gridlock as they are with freeway gridlock. America needs transportation relief now.

TERROR ATTACKS ON AUSTRALIA WILL NOT DETER WAR ON TERROR

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, al Qaeda-linked terrorists savagely attacked the Australian embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia. The blast killed nine and wounded more than 180 innocent people, most of whom were Muslims. Australian Prime Minister John Howard properly responded by saying, "This is not a nation that is going to be intimidated by acts of terrorism. We are a robust, strong democracy."

Indeed, he is exactly correct. Free nations must never be intimidated by hate-filled extremists which will only lead them to commit more murderous acts. The only proper response to terror is to aggressively go on the offense as President Bush and coalition partners have done for the past 3 years. Instead of waiting for another attack, we need to bring justice to the terrorists wherever they are and hold terror-supporting regimes accountable.

Australia, Spain, Russia, Israel, America and many others have been attacked in a war started by radicals against the civilized world. Yet this campaign of fear will fail as nations who value freedom will continue to fight together to win the war on terror.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

IN SUPPORT OF DRUG REIMPORTATION

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today, in The Washington Post, there was a story about a senior executive from Pfizer who announced that reimportation of pharmaceutical drugs was safe and could be worked out. Peter Rost, vice president of marketing for the pharmaceutical company Pfizer, publicly announced his support for drug reimportation.

In addressing the issue of safety, which the pharmaceutical companies

continue to raise as their main concern with reimportation, I want to quote this executive from Pfizer, "This has been proven safe in Europe. The real concern about safety is about people who do not take drugs because they cannot afford it. The safety issue is a made-up story." This, from an executive in Pfizer Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, today seniors are traveling to Canada and buying their medications there where they save up to 40 to 50 percent. Kaiser Foundation found that 29 percent of seniors had not filled prescriptions because they could not afford them.

The issue of safety is a hoax, and when somebody tells you it is not about money, folks, it is about money. It is time we do right by the American seniors and taxpayers.

CONGRATULATING THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GARLAND

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

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to welcome Dr. Greg Ammons to Garland, Texas, as the new pastor of the First Baptist Church.

The First Baptist Church of Garland was founded in 1868. They currently have over 3,500 active members and offer countless mission and service opportunities for their members to help serve the community.

The First Baptist mission statement reads, "To know Jesus and make him known." I can tell you that, through their faith and through their dedication to service, they are living up to that statement and doing the Lord's work in the Garland area.

Today, I would like to offer my heartfelt welcome and prayers to Dr. Ammons, his family and his entire congregation at the First Baptist Church. I know firsthand that the members are very excited to have Dr. Ammons, Lisa and young Camden join their congregation.

May God continue to bless Dr. Ammons, the First Baptist Church of Garland, and may He continue to bless the United States of America.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET RECORD

(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, there is a certain humor in the Bush attacks on Senator KERRY's budget plans. The Bush administration, after all, has the most reckless fiscal management in our Nation's history. It has produced the largest deficit, after turning the largest budget surplus that they inherited into a sea of red ink.

His prescription drug Medicare program hid the true cost even from Republicans in Congress. His proposal to

privatize Social Security, all independent observers indicate, will cost at least \$2 trillion.

While he wastes money on missile defense, he is shortchanging homeland security, all the while proposing more tax cuts for people who do not need them while ignoring the needs of those who do. No wonder he wants to talk about JOHN KERRY's fiscal proposals. His record is indefensible.

EBAY PART OF 21ST CENTURY ECONOMY

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, last week, we had a great statement made by Vice President CHENEY talking about the new 21st century vibrant economy. He pointed to the fact that there are, in this new economy, 430,000 Americans who make their income, their living, selling on eBay. They are entrepreneurs.

Over the weekend, there were a number of pundits who criticized him, saying, Well, because of the slow economy, that Vice President CHENEY was advocating that people go down and find something in the basement and sell it on eBay, and that will take care of them.

The fact of the matter is, that is not what he was saying. He was talking about an industry that did not exist 10 years ago; eBay did not even exist. Today, we have got nearly half a million Americans earning their living on eBay. Frankly, if you look at the number of people who are selling things on eBay, it is in the millions.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is important for us to acknowledge that this administration and this Congress are helping us build and expand in this new 21st century economy.

THE REPUBLICANS HAVE LOST THEIR WAY

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, what were they thinking? The Republicans that control this House look at our economy and the job losses, the declining wages and rising cost of health care, and you know what they think the problem is? That the people are earning too much overtime pay. So they decided to cut it for 6 million American families.

They look at jobs going overseas, and do you know what they think the problem is? They do not think there are enough jobs going overseas, so they continue to vote for tax credits to help companies send jobs overseas rather than create them at home.

And they look at crime in America, and do you know what they think the problem is? That there are not enough

guns and assault weapons on our streets, so they let the assault weapons ban expire and want to end the gun ban in the District of Columbia.

They look at the cost of pharmaceuticals, and they decide that they are not as expensive as the senior citizens in this country find them. So they decide they are not going to let them go to Canada. They are not going to let them reimport drugs from overseas to cut the cost of drugs. Rather, they are going to prosecute them and the governments, cities and counties that are trying to help those individuals have affordable drugs.

They have lost their way.

CONSTITUTION RESTORATION ACT PROMISES FREEDOM OF RELIGION

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the American Congress in 1776 adopted a Declaration of Independence which asserted the belief that we are endowed by our creator with certain inalienable rights. In fact, the Congress that adopted the first amendment and its freedom of religion clause also established the chaplaincy and the practice, as we saw today, of opening this House in prayer.

Nevertheless, over the past 42 years, since the famous prayer in school cases, our Federal courts have showed increased hostility toward the acknowledgement of God in the public square. But as we heard yesterday before the Judiciary subcommittee, Congress can finally do something about it.

The Constitution Restoration Act simply put, Mr. Speaker, would use article III powers to deny the Federal courts jurisdiction over any case where the action is brought because a public official simply acknowledges God.

Let us restore that basic freedom of religion in the public square, the acknowledgment of God that our founders so cherished and enshrined in this institution. The freedom of religion must never become the freedom from religion. Let us pass the Constitution Restoration Act in this Congress.

AMERICA NEEDS A LEADERSHIP TRANSPLANT

(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, among all the chaos and the economy and Iraq, the administration is bellying these days about tort reform. It is the solution to a national health care crisis, they shout. That is the closest thing to a perpetual motion machine and just as phony.

Tort reform is a smoke screen by the administration to cover its own failure to do anything about the health care

crisis. The administration squandered 4 years and did nothing on premiums, slamming Americans with double-digit increases year after year. Americans cannot find decent jobs. That is why millions do not have health care. Millions of other Americans with jobs cannot afford the premiums.

But the administration has to cover its tracks, so they launch a diversion against the lawyers, and they are blaming the other guy because JOHN KERRY actually has a health care plan.

The President has a plan. It is called more of the same; 4 more years of record profits for special interests; 4 more years of skyrocketing costs for the average American; 4 more years of failure; and a 17 percent increase for seniors.

America needs a leadership transplant, and surgery is set for the 2nd of November.

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THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

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

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, this is the 150th anniversary year of the Republican Party. Over a century and a half, from the abolition of slavery to the establishment of women's suffrage, to the freeing of millions in the Soviet Empire and Afghanistan and in Iraq, the Republican Party has been the most effective political organization in the history of the world in advancing the cause of freedom.

So that all of us can learn more about the achievements of this fundamentally American institution in its 150th anniversary year, the House Republican Policy Committee has published the 2005 Republican Freedom Calendar. Each day of the year, the calendar lists an important milestone of the Republican Party's history of advancing freedom and civil rights in America.

It was on this day in 1901, 103 years ago, that America mourned the death of Republican President William McKinley, who established an impressive civil rights record. To show his support for African Americans, President McKinley defied Democrat protests to travel to Alabama and deliver an address at the Tuskegee Institute, which was founded by the celebrated African American Republican Booker T. Washington.

Mr. Speaker, the calendar is available on line at policy.house.gov.

BUSH PROPOSALS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, Republicans are at it again. President Bush yesterday attacked Senator KERRY's