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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 17, 2005.

I hereby appoint the Honorable THOMAS E. PETRI 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: Eternal Father, our Guardian and Stay, protect and guide America's military forces as they face the perils of combat. Strengthen their officers with wisdom and right judgment. May their families know that their country's citizens stand by them with pride and with our prayers.

As Congress addresses the issues of governance this week, be with all the Members of the House of Representatives. May every Democrat, every Republican, and every independent thinking Member come together under the banner of civility to seek only the best answers to the deepest problems facing this Nation.

May people across this Nation rejoice in the realization that this institution is truly government of the people, for the people, and by the people, today and every day. This we ask of You as our Sovereign Guide 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.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. 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 agreeing to 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. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, Speaker pro tempore TOM DAVIS signed the following enrolled bill on Friday, October 7, 2005:

S. 1858, to provide for community disaster loans.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to

meet at 10:30 a.m. tomorrow for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

A CONSTITUTION FOR IRAQ

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, once again democracy has trumped anarchy, chaos, and terror. The Iraqis, 61 percent mind you, went out and voted for a new constitution. The Kurds, the Sunnis, and Shiites have formed a new democracy in Iraq. Those cynics, even those in this House who say the Iraqis are not competent to have a republic, have once again been proven to be the ignorant.

I was in Iraq this January and witnessed these proud people yearning to be free. The United States presence in Iraq is serving two purposes: we are fighting and winning the war on terror, and we have helped to establish a democracy, a free nation in that land far, far away.

Even though there are those who have the French mindset and want us to cut and run, we will not do so. We will not run from duty and democracy. When our noble cause is completed and the terrorists are on the run, and when the Iraqis can protect their own nation, our troops will return to these shores.

To those pacifists that cry, Peace, peace, at any price peace, there can be no peace as long as there is some American somewhere dying for the rest of us. That is just the way it is.

IRAQ CONSTITUTION VOTE

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

□ 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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Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, again, a significant milestone was reached this past weekend in the recovery of the sovereign nation of Iraq.

On my most recent trip to that country this past August, it was clear that the constitution was the key that gets them through the door to the next part of their ability to govern themselves.

There are things in this country that we take for granted, things like bank to check, things like transfer of title of real estate, things that are not possible in a country that does not have a constitution, things that are not possible in a country that does not know the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, in excess of 60 percent of the people of Iraq braved the terrorists, braved the threats of violence to go out and vote. We stand with the people of Iraq today, but mostly we stand with our troops who made this all possible, and I salute their efforts.

IRAQI ELECTION IS A SHINING EXAMPLE OF DEMOCRACY

(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, Saturday's election in Iraq was a shining example of democracy in action and continued proof that the Iraqi people are bravely determining the fate of their nation.

After Iraqi security forces and coalition troops worked together efficiently to provide security for the landmark event, the day was calm and the election was conducted professionally. On Sunday, the Chicago Tribune reported that Iraqis said they felt safer in this election than they did in January.

Most importantly, millions of Shites, Sunnis, Kurds, and Turkmen cast their ballots for a constitution that will protect their rights and serve as a blueprint for their nation's future. Their strong participation demonstrated that Iraqis respect the constitutional process and believe in the promise of democracy. Their success in building a civil society is a critical step of the global war on terrorism, protecting American families.

Today, I am honored to congratulate the Iraqi National Assembly, the Iraqi people, and Iraqi and coalition troops on this historic accomplishment.

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

MARINES PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN IRAQ

(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, as my colleagues have said, the people of Iraq have chosen ballots over bullets. I want to congratulate the United States forces, the coalition forces, and of course the Iraqi security forces which

did a phenomenal job over this past weekend.

I would like to share, Mr. Speaker, with my colleagues a letter that came from the family of Byron Norwood, who, you recall, was killed in the battle of Fallujah last November. His parents were in the gallery when President Bush delivered his State of the Union message. They wrote to the Marines who are getting ready to be redeployed:

"As you prepare to deploy once again, we as Gold Star parents of a sergeant from your own battalion want you to know the depth of gratitude and support felt by Americans everywhere. We live in a time of conflicting messages, as free speech rights are exercised by a vocal few.

"Since the battle of Fallujah last November, we have received countless letters expressing heartfelt thanks to not only Byron but also to you as his fellow Marines. Had we not lost our son, we would not have been aware of the overwhelming appreciation and respect for those of you who wear the uniform.

"Byron loved being a Marine and welcomed the duty and honor of protecting the United States. He also loved his brother Marines and said there was nowhere he would rather be than with them until the mission was complete. He believed strongly in the need to fight terrorism at its source in order to lessen the risk of having to face it in our own neighborhoods. We are grateful for all of you who are willing to fight for something greater than yourselves.

"We are grateful for the freedoms that we are afforded by living in America, and we are aware that those freedoms exist only because we have men and women in the military who, for generations, have fought to protect them. Thank you for taking your place in the ranks of great warriors who understand the value of honor, courage, and commitment."

RECOGNIZING KATHY LINEBERGER

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate an outstanding teacher from North Carolina's Fifth District, Ms. Kathy Lineberger.

Last Thursday, Ms. Lineberger, who teaches at Ward Elementary School in Winston-Salem, was named to USA Today's All-USA Teacher Team. This recognition means that she is one of the top 20 teachers in the United States.

As a reward, Ms. Lineberger will receive \$2,500 to share with her school. She plans to enrich the lives of her students by using a vast majority of her award to purchase books for her classroom.

This is not the first national recognition bestowed to Ms. Lineberger. In 2000, she was named the National CHEM, which stands for Chemistry,

Health, Environment, and Me, Teacher of the Year for writing interdisciplinary lessons. She also won the National Science Educator for Public Understanding Award in 1998 and was the Academically Gifted Teacher of the Year for Winston-Salem/Forsyth County in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, the people of the Fifth District are fortunate to have many dedicated and talented teachers like Kathy Lineberger teach our children. I congratulate Ms. Lineberger and wish her continued success.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE AND POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHEMISTRY TO OUR EVERY- DAY LIVES AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NA- TIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 457) recognizing the importance and positive contributions of chemistry to our everyday lives and supporting the goals and ideals of National Chemistry Week.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 457

Whereas chemistry is at the core of every technology we benefit from today;

Whereas the power of the chemical sciences is what they create as a whole; an enabling infrastructure that delivers the foods, fuels, medicines, and materials that are the hallmarks of modern life;

Whereas the contributions of chemical scientists and engineers are central to technological progress and to the health of many industries, including the chemical, pharmaceutical, electronics, agricultural, automotive, and aerospace sectors, and these contributions boost economic growth, create new jobs, and improve our health and standard of living;

Whereas the American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific society, founded National Chemistry Week in 1987 to educate the public, particularly elementary and secondary school children, about the role of chemistry in society and to enhance students' appreciation of the chemical sciences;

Whereas National Chemistry Week is a community-based public awareness campaign conducted by more than 10,000 volunteers in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico;

Whereas National Chemistry Week volunteers from United States industry, government, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education reach and educate millions of children through hands-on science activities in local schools, libraries, and museums;

Whereas the theme of National Chemistry Week in 2005, "The Joy of Toys", was chosen