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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "O Lord, have pity on us, for You we wait. Be our strength every morning, our salvation in time of trouble."

Lord, it takes a great deal of humility for believing people to accede to Your will. Sometimes faith builds such strong convictions in us, Lord, that we can easily have only our own ideas as to how and when You will answer our prayers. Often we do not remain open to other responses or we become impatient with Your unsearchable ways.

Very often, Lord, we profess strong faith in Your providential ways, but it is Your art of timing we find difficult to accept. So confirm us, as a nation of idealists, who will continue to have confidence even during the test of timing.

Have pity on us, Lord, as we wait for You to answer our prayers now and forever. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. MALONEY 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

THE SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain five 1-minutes on each side.

NEVER SURRENDER

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, last week we debated the very important issue of how we are going to confront the global war on terror: Are we going to confront this challenge, or are we going to retreat and defeat? Republicans are dedicated to confronting this challenge and will continue to offer the American strong national security policies that will protect this Nation against another attack on their own soil. We will continue to trumpet successes such as the elimination of al Zarqawi and the Iraqi Government naming new interior defense and security ministers.

Democrats, though, are too eager to grasp upon the challenges we face as their rationale to defeat. Even the death of the terrorist al Zarqawi only brought cries of retreat and claims that it was only "a stunt." And just last week, 149 Democrats voted against a resolution declaring that the United States will prevail in the war on terror.

Mr. Speaker, President Kennedy once said, "The cost of freedom is always high, but Americans have always paid it, and one path we shall never choose and that is the path of surrender or submission."

When it comes to the global war on terror, we must never choose the path of surrender.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS CONGRESS

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, the last 24 hours will tell you everything you need to know about what is wrong with this Congress: hold up voting rights, knock down the minimum wage increase, relieve the superrich of respon-

sibility for paying estate taxes, keep sending our children to fight and die in a war based on lies. That, by the way, is the real death tax, and it is paid by the poor and the middle class. Our new motto should be: United We Stand, Sure, But Divided We Profit.

H.R. 5638, the estate tax legislation, should be more accurately described as the American Idle Act, I-D-L-E, because it relieves the children of billionaires and multi-multi-millionaires of over one-quarter of a trillion dollars in estate taxes in just 5 years starting in 2013. The \$2,600 per taxpayer loss of revenue will take money from our schools and from our health care and from senior citizens programs.

The Bible says it is easier for a camel to get through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to get to heaven. Here in Washington, the superrich ride elephants, and some donkeys, to get to their alabaster heaven where they pay no taxes.

EXCESSIVE REGULATIONS ON SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

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

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, we have passed important legislation in this Congress to help America's small businesses; we have passed legislation to help make health insurance more affordable and accessible, and legislation to provide tax relief. But we need to continue demonstrating our commitment to helping small businesses in New York and throughout the country by passing legislation that I have introduced to help relieve the excessive regulatory burden on small businesses.

The Cut Unnecessary Regulatory Burden For Small Business Act, passed by the House Government Reform Committee earlier this month, would

□ 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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enable Congress to better eliminate excessive Federal regulations that hamper small business, job growth, and productivity.

When Federal agencies overregulate small business owners, it forces them to spend extra time and money and manpower completing endless paperwork instead of growing their businesses and creating new jobs. In small business forums and small business walks I have held throughout the year in the Hudson Valley of New York, excessive regulations were cited by small business owners as one of the major problems they are facing. And every small business spends \$7,000 per employee per year on regulatory compliance costs.

Let us help small business remain vibrant and strong, not overregulate it. Let us pass the CURB Act.

TRIBUTE TO LATE GOVERNOR BILL DANIEL

(Ms. BORDALLO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Bill Daniel, a former Governor of Guam, who passed away on Tuesday at his home in Liberty, Texas.

Governor Daniel was a close family friend whose legacy has left an indelible imprint on the people of Guam. He served as Guam's Governor from 1961 to 1963 and was appointed to the post by President John F. Kennedy. He resigned to allow Manuel Guerrero, his friend and protege, to succeed him as Governor.

Governor Daniel was a gifted and hands-on leader who adopted Guam as his second home. During his tenure, the Navy security clearance requirement for persons traveling to and from Guam was lifted. The University of Guam was elevated to a 4-year institution. Our visitor industry took root, and our agricultural program was upgraded.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his daughters Ann, Susan, and Dani, and the entire Daniel family.

A TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST CLASS STEVEN WILLIAM FREUND

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

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a courageous hero of the war on terror, Private First Class Steven William Freund.

Steven Freund of Pleasant Hills, Pennsylvania, attended Thomas Jefferson High School, and he loved to hunt and fish and do just about anything outdoors. He joined the Marines and served in Iraq for 6 months, already escaping two separate roadside bombs. It was dangerous there, and he knew that, but he strongly believed in and was dedicated to America's mission.

But on May 23, Private Freund made the ultimate sacrifice for his mission and the Nation he loved. He was tragically killed by a third roadside bomb while riding in a Humvee conducting combat operations outside Fallujah.

Private Freund is survived by his father, Steven Freund, his brother Mark Menzietti, sister Angela Menzietti, cousins Matt Freund, Jason Eiben and Justin Eiben, and his aunt Donna Eiben of Pittsburgh, who was his legal guardian.

His funeral was a solemn, but beautiful, service that I attended, along with many friends and family. After the funeral, he was awarded the Purple Heart and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with combat cluster in a graveside ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I speak for this entire body when I express the deepest condolences to his family on behalf of a grateful Nation. Semper Fi, Private Freund.

RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE

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

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, this Congress has been consumed with giving tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans, and it is time we look at some of the average Americans and facts about the minimum wage.

Congress has not raised the minimum wage since 1997. The minimum wage is now at its lowest level in 50 years adjusted for inflation. Does anyone really believe it is possible to make even the most basic ends meet on \$5.15 an hour? A minimum-wage worker working full time all year will earn just \$10,700. It takes a full day's pay for a minimum wage earner to pay for one tank of gas today.

6.6 million people will benefit from a rise in the minimum wage. Eighty-six percent of Americans support the rise in a minimum wage according to a Pugh poll in December of 2005. It is time this Congress listened to the American people and minimum-wage workers, and it is time that we act.

LINE ITEM VETO IS A COMMONSENSE SOLUTION

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

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today we will be debating the line item veto. Now, if you ask my constituents, this is an issue that doesn't need much debate. Giving the President the ability to cut wasteful spending should go hand in hand with fiscal responsibility.

Since coming to Congress 1½ years ago, it has become crystal clear to me, as it was to President Reagan, that Washington doesn't have a revenue problem; it has a spending problem.

The line item veto is a commonsense solution. Greater transparency to the earmark process and backing it up

with a 2-week window for Congress to ratify the President's actions will allow us to address unnecessary new spending, one of the biggest long-term challenges of the Federal budget. Mr. Speaker, when we use tools to cut wasteful spending and work toward achieving a balanced budget, the beneficiaries are hardworking American taxpayers. If we truly stand for fiscal restraint, we must pass the line item veto. I call on all of my colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, to support this commonsense, positive move to provide greater responsibility to the budget process.

THIS COUNTRY NEEDS A NEW DIRECTION

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, the Bush economy continues to be unfriendly to America's workers. Earlier this month, we learned that employers added only 75,000 jobs to their payrolls in May, about half of what we need just to keep up with normal growth in the labor market. Wage growth was disappointing again in May, continuing a pattern in which workers cannot get ahead of rising costs in gasoline, housing, health care, and on education for their children, even though their productivity keeps growing.

The benefits of economic growth under President Bush are showing up in the bottom lines of companies and in the pockets of shareholders, but not in the paychecks of America's workers. Mr. Speaker, this country needs a new direction.

LONE STAR VOICE: DONALD DOIRON

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, in the border security debate, those that want to allow more illegals in this country just changed the definition of words to make it politically correct to accept illegals. But American citizens are not fooled. Donald Doiron of Nederland, Texas, writes to me:

"Since hearing the plan for treating illegals as guest workers, I have now undergone a complete reversal in my understand of the proper meaning of words. I used to believe that the definition of guest is one that is invited. Now I am told this is no longer correct.

"For instance, if a burglar breaks into my home, he really becomes a guest who is only working for a better life. Because he broke in for that reason, I must accept the obligation to provide him a job, health care, education, transportation, and living quarters for him and his family. I feel so much better now."

Mr. Speaker, no matter how one puts the political spin, it is still illegal to