



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2007

No. 152

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, October 15, 2007, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2007

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 9, 2007.

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

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. BERKLEY) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God Almighty, source of consolation and wisdom, we need to approach Your awesome presence with humility, trusting in Your goodness.

It is with great admiration and affection that Members of the House of Representatives and staff here on Capitol Hill lift up before You today the Honorable JO ANN DAVIS, who represented the First District of Virginia and served in this Chamber with grace and distinction.

Her faith in You, Lord, was manifest in many ways. Her faithfulness to sworn duty, her leadership in the House Prayer Breakfast, and her perseverance in suffering have provided great witness to You as the source of her strength and peace.

Now that You have taken her to Yourself, reward Your servant JO ANN for her public service, for her love of family and friends, as well as her kind courtesy to colleagues and staff alike. May You, our redeeming Lord, grant eternal rest to her and to all who have served in this noble institution with hearts fixed on serving others 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 her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR JORDANNE MURRAY, KATRINA MCCORKLE, LEANNA THOMAS, AARON SMITH, BRADLEY SCHULTZ, LINDSEY STAHL, AND TYLER PETERSON.

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

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, as we see with Representative DAVIS, in any instant a spark turns cool. The State of Wisconsin and the city of Crandon are in mourning today over the tragic loss of seven of their beloved children whose lives were lost in a violent outrage following a young lovers' quarrel.

Lost forever, but never to be forgotten, will be these beloved children, so

□ 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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dearly treasured by all who knew and loved them: Jordanne Murray, Katrina McCorkle, Leanna Thomas, Aaron Smith, Bradley Schultz, Lindsey Stahl, and Tyler Peterson.

On behalf of all people in northeast Wisconsin and beyond, please know that we share your grief. And to all family and friends of those who remain on this saddest of days, we mourn with you.

For some things there can never be a reason why.

I ask for a moment of silence.

A ROBUST ECONOMY

(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. Madam Speaker, September marked the 49th consecutive month of job growth in the United States with the creation of 110,000 new jobs. Revised reports show an increase, not a decline, in jobs for August, which makes 8.4 million new jobs created since August 2003. This sets the record for the longest period of uninterrupted job growth in our history. This achievement comes as the stock market has hit a record high and the unemployment rate remains low at 4.7 percent.

The success of our economy is a product of pro-growth policies inspired by the Home Builders Association that respect the needs of American businesses and taxpayers. However, the most important contributor to these positive trends is the entrepreneurial spirit of Americans who are investing in our economy, building successful companies, and trading on the global market. We should support these efforts by keeping taxes low and enforcing fiscal responsibility here in Congress.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September the 11th. My deepest sympathy to the family, friends, and staff of Congresswoman JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JO ANN DAVIS OF VIRGINIA

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Representative JO ANN DAVIS with whom I served as she served as chairperson and I as ranking member on our subcommittee in Government Reform.

It was always a pleasure to work with her. And while we didn't always agree on every issue that came before us, we always agreed that we would be civil and that we would work in tandem for the best interests of the people of this country.

So I'm going to miss her. I extend my personal condolences to her family and would just like for her to know that it was indeed a pleasure working with her.

SCHIP EXPANSION

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, Congress's SCHIP legislation is seriously flawed. It takes a bipartisan program that was working well and turns it into a huge new entitlement.

It is a bold step towards government expansion into socialized medicine. According to the Congressional Budget Office, 2 million children who are already covered by private insurance will switch to the SCHIP program under the proposed expansion. This is more than one in three of the projected new enrollees.

In plain terms, this means we are providing incentives for people to drop their health insurance in favor of government-funded health care. And many of the people who will be dropping their health insurance will be making as much as \$60,000.

This doesn't make sense. The government has no business luring Americans onto the Federal health care rolls and making them dependent on the government to provide health care.

Call it what you want, but this \$35 billion expansion is not just about getting health care for kids. It is the early stages of a massive socialized health system that slowly erodes individual control in favor of government control of your health care. We don't need to be doing that.

AMERICAN TROOPS IN IRAQ

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

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I just returned on a codel from Baghdad, among other places, with four other Members, a bipartisan trip. I am proud to report that our troops are doing a marvelous job under the circumstances in which they have been placed.

To ride in a C-130 with American soldiers going into combat, seeing their faces and realizing that they were going into harm's way was very, very emotional; to ride in a Humvee with soldiers who faced an enemy that they didn't know who it was because friends and enemy look alike; and to be in the streets of Baghdad.

I was buoyed by the enthusiasm of our troops but know they are going to need help over the years with veterans benefits. We were in Landstuhl, Germany hospital today with a soldier who lost his leg on Friday. Continuing injuries will cause a continuing commitment from the American people and a continuing commitment to make sure that Iran does not exercise undue influence.

Prime Minister Maliki reasserted his desire to provide defense for his own country with help from America with equipment and not to have Iran interfere. I wasn't as extremely enthusiastic

about what I saw in the country of Iraq, which has been ravaged, or their government, which needs much improvement.

But our troops are beyond reproach and they need our support.

GOOD NEWS ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I too today stand to pay tribute to our colleague JO ANN DAVIS and to express my condolences to her family, her friends, and her staff. She will be missed in this body.

I also rise today to have a little bit to say about the economic news that is coming out. We have a Presidential debate on the issue tonight.

The bipartisan Congressional Budget Office has released a reported today; and according to the CBO, the Republican tax cuts going back to 2003, the tax cuts started then have fueled our growing economy and they are responsible for shrinking the Federal deficit, this time by 35 percent. What incredible economic news.

We also find out that Americans paid a record \$2.5 trillion in taxes in 2007 and Federal receipts have climbed since when? Since the 2003 tax reductions were put in place. And it has fueled the largest 4-year revenue increase in U.S. history.

Madam Speaker, it is good news on the economic front. I highlight this good news to my colleagues and encourage them to read the CBO report.

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.

EXTENDING DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE ACCESS ACT OF 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 1124) to extend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

On page 2, after line 11, insert:

SEC. 2. MEANS TESTING.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 3(c)(2) of the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 (113 Stat. 1324; Public Law 106-98) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;