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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 22, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ELLEN O. TAUSCHER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

In biblical times, after You proved victorious over Your people's enemies, Gideon was revered and the people wanted him to be their ruler. But Gideon replied: "I will not rule over you, nor shall my son. It is the Lord you should seek to rule over you."

Even today, Lord, we honor our veterans of war. We are proud that throughout our history in America, many veterans of war have served and presently serve here in Congress. But, in such a democracy as ours, it is You, Lord, we seek. It is You, Lord, who will rule over us, in and through Your servants.

Today we ask You to bless and reward those serving in the armed services of our country. Grant health, peace and consolation to all our veterans and those missing in action. Continue, Lord God of revelation and our history, to guide and direct this Nation in the path of peace 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 her approval thereof.

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

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 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. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side.

NEW OMB DIRECTOR

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, this week President Bush nominated former Congressman Jim Nussle to run the Office of Management and Budget.

Just before Mr. Nussle and President Bush took charge of America's books, we had a \$236 billion surplus, the largest in U.S. history 3 years running. Under President Bush's watch and Jim Nussle's, in 5 short years we had a \$318 billion annual deficit and \$300 trillion in new debt owed to the Chinese and other foreign countries.

We have heard a lot from this President and the GOP Members about the importance of fiscal responsibility. We Democrats couldn't agree more. Unfortunately, when it comes to George Bush and the Republican Congress, we will forever be in their debt.

Mr. Nussle once said, can we continue to fund our war efforts on this

type of ad hoc basis? I believe most of us would agree that we cannot and should not. We continue to give President Bush a blank check costing us nearly \$1 trillion on credit card funding for this war.

Mr. Nussle and President Bush came to change Washington, and Washington changed them. Nominating Mr. Nussle tells Americans a lot of what they can expect from a Republican administration.

"DRAIN THE SWAMP" MENTALITY IS DISAPPEARING

(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, almost 6 months into the new Congress with a new majority, the "drain the swamp" mentality is disappearing as quickly as the Democrats' approval ratings in Congress.

A new Gallup Poll has the latest congressional approval rating at 14 percent, which is the lowest it's been since the Democrats took charge and the lowest of all time. This makes sense when you consider that the Democrat leadership continues to backpedal at every opportunity on the promises they made to the American people, whether it's a failure to enact openness and transparency to increase accountability for earmark reform, their failure to enact their 100-hour agenda, or the increased infighting that's being seen on the other side as it tries to cope with how to spin another broken promise to their constituents.

Enough is enough, and it's time to get down to the important business the American people elected us to do.

□ 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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