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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 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 4, 2008.

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: You are all-powerful, Lord, and worthy of highest praise. Your power is great, and there is no limit to Your wisdom.

We, as Your people, as a Nation, are truly a tiny part of Your vast creation. Yet, we wish to praise You.

It is You Who move and act in any of us and take delight in our offering You praise. For You are to be found within us.

When we desire to create equal justice for all people, it is You Who plant the desire in us.

It is You Who plot out the ways we position ourselves for the future and lead Your people to insight and consensus.

When we long for peace in such a deep way that we are willing to lay down armaments and take our place at the table of negotiations, then we know it is You Who make us instruments of secure peace and begin the ending of hate and violence.

Lord, You have made us. You made us for Yourself so our hearts are restless now and we will not rest until we rest in You 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 gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CAPITO 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 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ENERGY AND GAS PRICES

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

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to urge my colleagues to join us in bringing down the price of gasoline and securing our energy supply.

Last December we enacted legislation that began to redirect our Nation's energy policy so it is clean, secure, and invests in our workforce.

In May we passed the Gas Price Relief for Consumers Act of 2008, legislation which gives the U.S. authorities the ability to prosecute those who engage in anti-competitive behavior, like the cartels such as OPEC.

Just last month we also passed the Renewable Energy and Job Creation

Act of 2008, which will provide needed investments and security to renewable energy and energy efficiency industries.

With the passage of all these bills and others, we are reducing our dependence on oil to bring down the record gas prices, secure our Nation's energy supply, and create hundreds of thousands of green collar jobs.

I urge my colleagues to help our businesses and consumers and struggling families to support all of these efforts.

AMERICANS DEMAND ACTION

(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, the American people are fed up with rising energy prices. They are fed up that the leadership here in Washington does not seem to have the will to step forward and make tough decisions so that we can begin to ease the pain at the pump.

I am proud to be working with many of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to try to bring real relief to the American people. In particular, I am proud to be supporting legislation such as the American Energy Independence and Price Reduction Act that would open up a small part of ANWR for energy production and exploration today and use funds obtained through the sale of land leases to invest in alternative energy sources for tomorrow.

These plans would adhere to the strictest environmental requirements in our Nation's history. This type of comprehensive approach is direct. It is timely. It is vital to building a stronger strategic energy portfolio.

The American people demand and deserve action.

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

□ 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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