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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "How great is Your goodness, Lord. How good You are to those who fear You. All those in need can place their trust in You because You are faithful and Your promises will be fulfilled.

"You spoke Your Word and we were created. Your Word revealed Your love and we were redeemed. You send forth Your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

"To You be glory, honor and thanksgiving."

So prays this psalm, the House of Representatives and this Nation, both today and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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.

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE 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 up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

FINDING REAL SOLUTIONS TO MEET ENERGY NEEDS

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

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, yesterday I talked to a farmer who told me he just purchased fuel to power his irrigation pumps. The cost for 2 weeks of that fuel, \$33,000 worth of diesel. This Nation's people and economy are reeling because of high energy costs, and yet some in this House offer nothing but the same old political games, the exact games that put us in this position.

Let's be very clear: No one is saying we shouldn't be producing and using domestic supplies. But false solution land grabs and politics aren't going to get us to energy independence. Oil companies today are sitting on 68 million acres of Federal land, your land, Madam Speaker, that could produce up to a decade-and-a-half worth of all the fuel this country needs. Yet they are not drilling. Future generations deserve that we provide real solutions that not only include domestic production, but provide innovations and alternative technologies and crack down on speculation.

Yesterday, Madam Speaker, China increased their fuel prices by 17 percent, and the price of oil dropped by \$6 a barrel. By anybody's best estimate, that is more than drilling in ANWR would drop the cost.

Madam Speaker, we deserve solutions that extend to the next generation, not the next election.

GUANTANAMO COURT DECISION

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

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, this week's Supreme Court decision regarding enemy terrorist detainees at Guantanamo Bay threatens the separation of powers by undermining the authority of the President as commander-in-chief and thwarting repeated efforts of Congress to address this issue. Taking enemy combatants from before military tribunals and putting them before civilian judges is a mistake.

Justice Scalia, who wrote a dissenting opinion to the 5-4 decision, said, "America is at war with radical Islamists. The game of bait-and-switch that today's opinion plays upon the Nation's commander-in-chief will make the war harder on us. It will almost certainly cause more Americans to be killed."

Chief Justice Roberts said, "Today the Court strikes down as inadequate the most generous set of procedure protections ever afforded aliens detained by this country as enemy combatants."

Madam Speaker, I believe history will judge the five Justices who supported this policy to be mistaken. Unfortunately, this most serious issue was stripped from the jurisdiction of America's elected officials, who are accountable to voters, and given to judges never elected and not accountable to the population at large.

AMERICA CANNOT AFFORD MORE FAILED BUSH-CHENEY ENERGY POLICIES

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

□ 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. WILSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, there are two people to blame for the extremely high increase in gas prices, President Bush and Vice President CHENEY, two men who came to the White House from the executive suites of Big Oil.

This week, the President proposed a proposal that was literally written by the oil industry: Give more public resources to the very same oil companies that are raking in record profits and are sitting on 68 million acres of Federal lands they already have leased.

The President called for opening the Outer Continental Shelf to drilling, even though more than 80 percent of that is already under lease at this time. The President reported the same old rhetoric about drilling in ANWR, even though his own Energy Department has concluded that will bring no solution for the next 20 years. This type of rhetoric is what is hurting us and will continue to hurt our country.

Madam Speaker, America cannot afford any more failed Bush-Cheney energy policies.

CONGRESS HELPING MONKEYS AND WHALES WHILE AMERICANS STRUGGLE TO MAKE ENDS MEET

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, with oil and gas prices climbing to record highs and families struggling to make ends meet, what did Congress do to help this week? Well, we voted on monkeys. Yes, we voted to prohibit you from driving a monkey across State lines. We also had a lengthy debate on whaling. But no votes to increase energy supplies to lower gas prices. Good for monkeys, good for whales, but not good for America's families.

Sixty-seven percent of Americans support safe, environmentally sound exploration of our resources. The American people understand that we need more American energy, not Saudi Arabian, not Venezuelan or Russian energy dependence. American energy means we are creating American jobs, not funding plush skyscrapers in Dubai. And lower prices allow us to invest our dollars in alternate energy and conservation.

Earlier this week, I introduced House Resolution 1282 to encourage the removal of the executive ban on drilling along our Outer Continental Shelf. The President has the power to remove this ban today, if he chooses. I invite all my colleagues to cosponsor my resolution. Let's bring relief for America's families.

DRILL NOTHING CONGRESS— PART II

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, the Drill Nothing Congress has let another week

go into the history books, but no progress has been made on solving rising gasoline prices. Most Americans are for offshore drilling, but the don't-drill-in-America gang says no.

Why does the anti-American drilling crowd think it is wrong for us to drill at home, but it is right for OPEC and the Saudis to drill and sell us crude that costs Americans \$425 million a day?

The Drill Nothing Congress says those American oil companies, which they seem to despise more than OPEC and dictator Chavez, have enough leases on Federal land. The problem with that lack of logic is there is no oil on those leases. The land is full of dry holes. It is like trying to lease Death Valley to the farmers to grow corn. It won't work.

The don't-drill group thinks American oil companies make too much money. Little do they know oil companies are owned by millions of middle-class Americans who are called stockholders.

Open up the Outer Continental Shelf. American oil companies will pay millions in lease revenues to taxpayers. Thousands of jobs will be created. America needs to take care of America. Drill offshore.

And that's just the way it is.

CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE ALICE ROBERTSON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, today I would like to share with the Chamber a very significant moment in our history. Eighty-seven years ago today, on June 20, 1921, Congresswoman Alice Robertson became the first woman to sit in the chair and preside over this body.

She was a pioneer, an educator, a public servant, and only the second woman ever elected to Congress. She is a testament to the power of the 19th amendment and a symbol of the full participation that women have enjoyed in government ever since its passage. Today, women occupy many seats in this Chamber, even the Speaker's Chair.

So we owe much to Alice Robertson, and I ask that you join me in celebrating her legacy and giving thanks to the memory of this wonderful Oklahoma woman.

RECOGNIZING THE HINSDALE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS TENNIS TEAM

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

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to congratulate the Hinsdale Central Red Devils on winning the Illinois State

Boys Tennis Tournament held at Hershey High School in Arlington Heights. This year's State finals mark the second consecutive State championship for Central's boys tennis team.

Team member Augie Bloom placed third in singles and the doubles team of Dan Ballantine and Ian Tesmond placed fifth in the State. Additionally, teammates Krishna Ravella, Paul Cooper and Josh Sink all contributed to bringing home the prize. Their outstanding performance on the court won 37 points, a one-point margin of victory. Guiding the team to victory were coach Jay Kramer and assistant coaches John Naisbitt and Bro Ballantine.

Madam Speaker, our community is very proud of these champions, who worked so hard for this victory. Their dedication and fighting spirit is a testament to their school and the State of Illinois.

Again, I congratulate the Hinsdale Central Red Devils on their state title, and wish them the best of luck in future seasons.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 337. Concurrent resolution honoring Seeds of Peace for its 15th anniversary as an organization promoting understanding, reconciliation, acceptance, coexistence, and peace in the Middle East, South Asia, and other regions of conflict.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills and a concurrent resolution of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2159. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

S. 2607. An act to make a technical correction to section 3009 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

S. Con. Res. 91. Concurrent resolution honoring Army Specialist Monica L. Brown, of Lake Jackson, Texas, extending gratitude to her and her family, and pledging continuing support for the men and women of the United States Armed Forces.

□ 0915

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5876, STOP CHILD ABUSE IN RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS FOR TEENS ACT OF 2008

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1276 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1276

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for