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No. 120

House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 22, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BETTY McCOLLUM 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.

LUIS DIAZ' RETIREMENT FROM YOUTH CO-OP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to extend my congratulations to a dear constituent of my congressional district, Luis Diaz, upon his upcoming retirement as deputy director of Youth Co-Op.

He has dedicated his life to the betterment of the youth of South Florida by ensuring that they learn the necessary skills to be able to compete and to be productive members of today's society.

For more than three decades, Youth Co-Op has been a pioneer in assisting refugee children and young people in making the transition, sometimes difficult, into their new communities. Mr.

Diaz' leadership and his dedication have been instrumental in helping maintain the vision of Youth Co-Op.

He is also a distinguished journalist, producer and talk show host.

He has been involved with the Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs Council as well as with the Spanish American League against Discrimination, among many other civic organizations.

Luis Diaz' proudest role, however, Madam Speaker, is that of a husband and that of a father. His love and devotion to his wife, Xiomara, and to his three children mirror his commitment to our community.

I am proud to not only call Luis Diaz a South Floridian but also my friend, all of South Florida's friend. Happy retirement, Mr. Diaz.

GLOBAL ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, the United States is the world's largest energy consumer and one of its leading producers. However, many Americans remain in the dark about the global nature of the energy crisis we have today.

As a result of the integrated nature of the world oil market, it is unlikely that any one nation acting on its own can implement policies that isolate its market from the broader price behavior.

As new major oil importers, notably China and potentially India, expand their demand, the oil market likely will have to expand production capacity, too. This promises to increase the world's dependence on the Persian Gulf members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, especially Saudi Arabia, and to maintain upward pressure on price.

International markets set the price of oil and energy as a whole. There is nothing we can do about that. How-

ever, we can increase our own energy reserves and can lessen the effects of the global energy market, but we must keep the proper perspective about our energy supplies.

Now, so-called alternative fuels, including wind, solar, fuel cells, ethanol, and biodiesel, indeed, hold great promise for the future, but right now, they are expensive and are currently useful only in small-scale applications. I hope this will change. Wind and solar power, for example, are intermittent and are unpredictable. Because electricity cannot be stored on a large scale, wind and solar are unsuitable as 24-hour-a-day sources of energy.

Even though government forecasts show more than a 50 percent increase in renewable energy used by 2030, the renewable share of the total energy pie will rise from only 6 to 7 percent during that period. At this stage, it would be more accurate to call these "supplemental" rather than "alternative" energy sources. They are simply not ready to replace the fossil fuels that currently account for about 80 percent of the world's energy supply.

We need an effective national policy that supersedes the existing patchwork of different State laws and regulations, one that allows us to tap all of our energy supply options, to promote greater reliance on conservation and efficiency and to foster a business environment conducive to market competition and timely investment in new energy infrastructure.

Current projections indicate that, shortly after 2040, the United States will exceed 400 million people and that the world will exceed 9 billion people. This steady climb has major implications for the U.S. energy industry. Each new person will put additional demands on the system, requiring more electricity and natural gas to run their homes and businesses and gasoline or other liquid fuels to transport them.

□ 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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Although its forecasts do not quite go that far, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, electricity over the next 25 years is expected to jump by 50 percent. Now, similarly, domestic oil consumption is expected to grow about 1 percent a year with U.S. oil consumption climbing by one-third, from 21 million barrels a day to 28 million barrels a day. The U.S. addiction to oil is strong and growing.

We are not alone in our thirst for oil. Global demand for oil is also forecasted to increase by nearly 50 percent by the year 2030. The emergence of China and of India as economic powers is a leading cause of that growth. Their mushrooming demand for oil and for other forms of energy is reshaping global markets and is creating new geopolitical alliances and security concerns along the way.

These are significant increases, and we must plan now to meet this future energy demand or run the risk of undercutting the economic engine that drives the world's economy.

Because of the global nature of the energy crisis, there are no quick fixes or silver bullets to remedy this problem. However, this Congress must not sit idly by and watch the price of energy bankrupt American families. We must make finding a meaningful multilateral approach to our energy problem this year Congress' top priority. We need to do it now.

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 38 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 (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

There are many different gifted persons assembled here in the 110th Congress, but there is one Spirit Who has called all of them to serve. There are many different committees and different concerns for the House of Representatives to address; but there is one Lord over all. There are different works; but all are centered on the one aspiration of equal justice under the law. There are different activities each day here on Capitol Hill; but there is one God and Father of all, Who is present and active in all. For to each person there is given a manifestation of the Spirit, and this is given for the

common good of the Nation. May God be praised in our diversity and in our unity 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 his approval thereof.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 22, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 22, 2008, at 1:03 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2766.

That the Senate passed S. 3298.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

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.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAVERY ACT OF 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2565) to establish an awards mechanism to honor exceptional acts of bravery in the line of duty by Federal law enforcement officers.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 2565

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **FEDERAL AGENCY HEAD.**—The term "Federal agency head" means the head of any executive, legislative, or judicial branch Government entity that employs Federal law enforcement officers.

(2) **FEDERAL BOARD.**—The term "Federal Board" means the Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board established under section 103(a).

(3) **FEDERAL BOARD MEMBERS.**—The term "Federal Board members" means the members of the Federal Board appointed under section 103(c).

(4) **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BADGE.**—The term "Federal Law Enforcement Badge" means the Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery described in section 101.

(5) **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.**—The term "Federal law enforcement officer" means—

(A) means a Federal employee—

(i) who has statutory authority to make arrests or apprehensions;

(ii) who is authorized by the agency of the employee to carry firearms; and

(iii) whose duties are primarily—

(I) engagement in or supervision of the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law; or

(II) the protection of Federal, State, local, or foreign government officials against threats to personal safety; and

(B) includes a law enforcement officer employed by the Amtrak Police Department or Federal Reserve.

(6) **OFFICE.**—The term "Office" means the Congressional Badge of Bravery Office established under section 301(a).

(7) **STATE AND LOCAL BOARD.**—The term "State and Local Board" means the State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board established under section 203(a).

(8) **STATE AND LOCAL BOARD MEMBERS.**—The term "State and Local Board members" means the members of the State and Local Board appointed under section 203(c).

(9) **STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BADGE.**—The term "State and Local Law Enforcement Badge" means the State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery described in section 201.

(10) **STATE OR LOCAL AGENCY HEAD.**—The term "State or local agency head" means the head of any executive, legislative, or judicial branch entity of a State or local government that employs State or local law enforcement officers.

(11) **STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.**—The term "State or local law enforcement officer" means an employee of a State or local government—

(A) who has statutory authority to make arrests or apprehensions;

(B) who is authorized by the agency of the employee to carry firearms; and

(C) whose duties are primarily—

(i) engagement in or supervision of the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law; or