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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. EWING].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 22, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable THOMAS W. EWING to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

With all the tasks that need to be done and with the noise and clamor of the world about us, we bow our heads in this, our prayer, giving thanks for all the blessings we have received. O gracious God, from whom comes every good gift, we lift our voices in gratitude for those whose lives have made clearer to us the meaning of faith and hope and love. The gift of faith has empowered us to hear Your good word and to trust in Your grace; the gift of hope allows us to see beyond any present trouble and catch the vision of lives made whole and a world at peace; Your gift of love brings us to a fuller understanding of our humanity and makes each day come alive. For all these gifts, O God, we offer this prayer of thanksgiving and praise. 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.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. 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 pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida [Mr. DEUTSCH] will lead the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DEUTSCH 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 Chair will entertain 10 1-minutes on each side.

TAKE A STAND FOR SMALL BUSINESS

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

Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, in 1992 we heard time and again that candidate Clinton was committed to supporting small businessmen and women in this country. Now, he has the chance to make good on his campaign promise. And his response? He vetoed the small-business tax incentives in the Balanced Budget Act.

President Clinton says he supports jobs creation and economic expansion. But he continues to oppose small-business incentives in the current budget negotiations and continues to call them tax breaks for millionaires.

The goal behind these small-business tax incentives is twofold: enable small business men and women to keep more of their income and give them an incentive to reinvest the extra funds in small business. In turn, small firms will create new jobs, contribute to the economy, and provide additional tax revenues. And the cycle continues.

If the President wants to take a stand for the country, take a stand for small business.

NOTICE

LOBBYING DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1995

A special joint notice from the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House concerning implementation of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-65) appears in this issue of the Record following both the proceedings of the Senate and the House. See pages S19290-91 and H15634-35.

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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