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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. KOLBE].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 17, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable JIM KOLBE 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:

We know, gracious God, that Your blessings can flood our hearts and give us vision for the new day if we are open to Your good grace and hear Your words of forgiveness and promise. With all the distractions of everyday life and with all the tasks before us, may Your eternal presence and Your reconciling spirit guide, guard, and gird us along life's way so that Your blessings touch us in the depths of our hearts and lead us in the way of truth. In Your name we pray. 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.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. 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.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. 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. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ROEMER 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1003. An act to clarify Federal law with respect to restricting the use of Federal funds in support of assisted suicide.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 914. An act to make certain technical corrections in the Higher Education Act of 1965 relating to graduation data disclosures.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain ten 1-minutes on each side.

ETHICS ASSESSMENT

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, for months the political opponents of Speaker GINGRICH have been on a singular mission to destroy him. That mission has failed.

Today, the Speaker has assured us of his intent to pay the full amount of his ethics assessment out of his own pocket. This is the responsible thing to do, and I support his decision and thank him for his sacrifice.

We can finally put an end to the sad display of bitter partisan attacks that we saw from the other side. They wanted to destroy the Speaker because they have no new ideas. They wanted to destroy him because they have nothing substantial to contribute to mainstream political dialog.

The American people want lower taxes and less Government. And they respect leaders who take responsibility when things go wrong, unlike what we see at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue.

I applaud the Speaker. I respect the Speaker. I thank the Speaker.

DEVELOPING FERTILE MINDS

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

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, just a month ago on the front page of Time magazine, we have a cover story talking about our children in this country and new, brandnew research coming out how a child's brain develops fertile minds. We find that researchers across our great country are saying that the best time to learn a new language, to learn new things in our educational progress as people, might be between 0 and 5. That is what our researchers and

□ 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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