



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1997

No. 150

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 31, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable JOHN SHIMKUS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

Your spirit, O God, that is new every morning and with us until our last day, comes to us as a gentle wind blowing away all our faults and shortcomings and giving us a new beginning and new hope. In spite of all the sadness and disappointments that enter our lives, Your grace is sufficient for our needs and Your love is a balm unto our souls. May Your blessing, gracious God, that refreshes and makes us whole, be with us now and evermore, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). 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 Ohio [Mr. BROWN] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio 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 concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 167. Concurrent resolution to correct a technical error in the enrollment of H.R. 2160.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2160) "An Act making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes."

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

H.R. 672. An act to make technical amendments to certain provisions of title 17, United States Code.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1024. An act to make chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code permanent, and for other purposes; and

S. 1149. An act to amend title 11, United States Code, to provide for increased education funding, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will now entertain five 1-minutes from each side.

OPPOSE PRESIDENT'S PLAN ON NATIONAL TESTING

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today is Halloween, so let me begin with the first liberal horror story of the day. Our education liberals have come up with another expensive solution for our failing public school system. That is right. They want to use more of your taxpayer dollars to design and implement a national testing plan.

While all parents, including all of us, want to monitor the progress of our children in school, we do not want Washington bureaucrats creating more redtape through a national testing plan. Let us tackle our national education problems by sending the resources and dollars where they will do some good, to the local school districts, down into classrooms, where teachers and parents can apply those resources to teaching children, not lining the pockets of Washington bureaucrats. It is easy as all that.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the President's plan on national testing. This body should concentrate on increasing parental choice and involvement, not national testing.

FEDERAL INVESTIGATION INTO UNION PACIFIC

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

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, the lead story on the radio last evening was the

□ 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.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

H9803