United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 106th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 145 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1999 No. 19

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

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

We are thankful, gracious God, that You give us a vision of a world where justice reigns and where mercy and peace and reconciliation abide. Yet, we know too that You have given us minds with which to think, eyes with which to see, hands with which to work and hearts with which to love. Encourage us and all of Your people, dear God, to use the abilities and gifts that You have given so that while we pray and hear Your word we also go about our communities doing those good works that honor You and serve people in their need. Bless us this day and every day, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. GIBBONS. Mr. 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 Chair's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. GIBBONS. 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. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GIBBONS 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.

THE REPUBLICAN AGENDA FOR THE NEW CONGRESS

(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, the Republican agenda for the new Congress includes a middle class tax relief package, education improvements, saving Social Security and reforming that worthy cause, and a more effective, more efficient military.

Our agenda includes across the board tax cuts which means that anyone who pays Federal income taxes will get a tax cut. It includes education, legislation which will put more money into the classroom and less money into the pockets of an education bureaucracy here in Washington. It will include bipartisan Social Security reform so that seniors are protected, the soon-to-retire will get the benefits they have been promised and younger workers will have a system there for them when they retire as well.

It will include funding for the construction of a national missile defense system so that America will be safe from rogue nations who apparently are not impressed in the least bit that we have an ABM treaty with the Soviet Union, a country which thanks to Ronald Reagan no longer exists. It is an agenda that benefits all Americans and it is an agenda that rewards hard work, protects seniors, better educates our children and keeps America safe.

SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC MUST NOT SUCCEED

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

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, the United States is right to take forceful leadership to stop the systematic destruction of homes and villages and the slaughter of civilians in Kosova that has been ordered by Slobodan Milosevic, the Communist dictator of rump Yugoslavia. But in that process the United States must not be party to one last sellout of the human rights of the people of Kosova in this 20th century.

Milosevic, who supervised the killing of hundreds of thousands of Croats and Bosnians and the creation of at least two million refugees by his attacks on two other United Nations members will now brazenly plead to that very United Nations his right to utterly subjugate or, if not, to kill or drive into exile the two million Kosovars who make up 90 percent of the population of Kosova.

Milosevic must not succeed. The time has come for the United States to forcefully and unequivocally promote the ultimate right of self determination of the people of Kosova so they may live in peace and freedom in the 21st Century.

COMMONSENSE CONSERVATIVES TRUST THE PEOPLE TO INVEST IN THEIR OWN FUTURES

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Madam Speaker, I listened with great interest a few days ago when the President of the United States came to this Chamber and outlined some 80 new programs in the span of 75 minutes, and, Madam Speaker, indeed I believe it comes down to a question of trust, because how interesting

Printed on recycled paper.