



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2003

No. 129

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DREIER).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
September 18, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID DREIER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Almighty God, 216 years ago, by the unanimous consent of the States present, in the 12th year of the independence of the United States, the Constitution of this country was ratified.

We praise You and thank You for this founding document of our Republic. It establishes and defines the three branches of our government: the Legislative, the Executive, and the Judiciary. As a government of enumerated powers, those powers not granted to the Federal Government are reserved to the people themselves.

By Divine Providence, Lord, this document of human liberty and God-given rights came upon the world scene.

Ever since, the kind of government our Founders and Framers have given us can best be described as "a government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

Today we celebrate this great proclamation, so brilliant in its brevity and flexibility. As citizens of the Nation, we rejoice to have such guidance and assurance for our future.

As witness to this 108th Congress, we thank You for those who bring to life

the words of the Constitution in our own day. They enflame this noble and brave idea of our Constitution and serve in the Federal Government as a testament to freedom and as a living promise for the world.

In You our God we trust 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. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

### CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2657

Mr. KINGSTON submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 2657) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

#### CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 108-279)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2657) "making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes", having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

#### Amendment numbered 1:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 1, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed by said amendment, insert:

*That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, namely:*

#### TITLE I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS SENATE

##### EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

*For expense allowances of the Vice President, \$20,000; the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, \$20,000; Majority Leader of the Senate, \$20,000; Minority Leader of the Senate, \$20,000; Majority Whip of the Senate, \$10,000; Minority Whip of the Senate, \$10,000; President Pro Tempore emeritus, \$7,500; Chairmen of the Majority and Minority Conference Committees, \$5,000 for each Chairman; and Chairmen of the Majority and Minority Policy Committees, \$5,000 for each Chairman; in all, \$127,500.*

##### REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

*For representation allowances of the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, \$15,000 for each such Leader; in all, \$30,000.*

##### SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

*For compensation of officers, employees, and others as authorized by law, including agency contributions, \$125,307,000, which shall be paid from this appropriation without regard to the following limitations:*

##### OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

*For the Office of the Vice President, \$2,028,000.*

##### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

*For the Office of the President Pro Tempore, \$539,000.*

##### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE EMERITUS

*For the Office of the President Pro Tempore emeritus, \$156,000.*

##### OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

*For Offices of the Majority and Minority Leaders, \$3,220,000.*

##### OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY WHIPS

*For Offices of the Majority and Minority Whips, \$2,324,000.*

##### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

*For salaries of the Committee on Appropriations, \$12,799,000.*

□ 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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