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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. BEREUTER).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 16, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DOUG BEREUTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Reverend Les Burleson, Southeast Director, Hockey Ministries International, Wake Forest, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

The world is complex, thorny, and often unrewarding to those that would step out and change things for the better. God, if anyone here today has lost that sense of idealism that brought them here, or that sense of wonder associated with being part of the grand experiment of democracy, please renew their spirits this day.

Give their hearts a new measure of hope, and give them a renewed vision of where their ideals can take a great Nation. Give them a spirit of adventure to carry us through today and into a new and broadening horizon.

Though "we, the people" can sometimes be fickle in our demands, please remind them that they are loved and respected for what they do and that we appreciate every day of their service. Whether through the mire of a war, the grief at the loss of a former President, or the briars and brambles of daily decisionmaking, these men and women are yet the leaders of the greatest Nation on Earth. God bless them, and God bless America. 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. GILLMOR. 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 Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. GILLMOR. 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 clause 8, rule XX, 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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 Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GILLMOR 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. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2238. An act to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to reduce losses

to properties for which repetitive flood insurance claim payments have been made.

S. 2362. An act to authorize construction of a Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory instrumentation support control building and associated site development on Kitt Peak, Arizona, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to sections 276d-276g of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senator as a member of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group during the Second Session of the One Hundred Eighth Congress: The Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA).

WELCOMING THE REVEREND LESTER BURLESON

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

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome our guest chaplain, Lester Burleson. I am proud to represent Reverend Burleson in this Chamber. Reverend Burleson is the youth minister at Wake Forest Baptist Church in Wake Forest, North Carolina, a very important congregation in my home county.

Before arriving at that position, he served 8 years as pastor of Wake Union Baptist Church in Wake Forest, North Carolina, where he saw his ministry grow from a working congregation of about 38 to 150 folks regularly attending Sunday worship services.

Reverend Burleson's ministry has also taken him into the world of sport. As chapel coordinator for the Anshultz Entertainment Group in North America and Europe, he has helped many pro athletes grow in their faith. He also serves as the director of the chapel program for the Carolina Hurricanes, our local NHL team.

Just as Reverend Burleson has served his parish and his ministry with great

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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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distinction, he has also served our country with great distinction. As a 10-year Army reservist, Reverend Burleson served as commander of the 139th Tactical Operations Center. During Operation Desert Storm, he was elevated to company commander and served 10 months of active duty.

His wife, Pamela, and children, Mandy and Matthew, are watching today proudly.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Reverend Burleson for his distinguished service, and I am honored to welcome Reverend Burleson to the House floor today.

ESTABLISHING AN ENERGY POLICY

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

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, establishing a sound energy policy for America's future includes reducing our dependency on foreign oil and preserving the environment. While many argue that these two goals conflict with each other, I do not believe this to be true. That is why I am calling for the increased production and availability of ethanol.

The increased use of ethanol would clearly reduce America's dependency on foreign oil, and it would also provide consumers with a fuel that burns much cleaner than traditional gasoline. Another benefit of ethanol is the economic potential it holds for corn-producing States like Kansas. Increased ethanol use would provide additional market capacity for farmers.

However, the economic impact is not limited to Midwestern States. Supplementing the gasoline supply with ethanol has the potential to provide much-needed relief for prices at the pump across this Nation.

In short, increased use of ethanol would bolster our national security, bolster our economy, and benefit our environment.

CONGRATULATING DETROIT PISTONS

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

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am here to announce the celebration of the Detroit Pistons in their sweep last night and offer my condolences to those Members of the House, in particular from the Los Angeles area. I will not mention any names, but one, M.W., comes to mind. I wanted Members to know how wonderful it feels after some 14 years to come back as strong as they did. It has a lot to do with the teamwork and the spirit of basketball.

By the way, there were no incidents in Detroit. The gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. KILPATRICK) has some

additional comments to make. We have a resolution we would like Members to join on.

COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY POLICY

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

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a comprehensive energy policy. America needs comprehensive energy legislation to fill the country's critical and growing energy needs. It is vital to our national security, will generate new jobs, and make America more competitive.

The House has continued to focus our attention on this important issue with the passage of H.R. 4503, the Energy Policy Act, yesterday afternoon. I am glad that the House has again presented yet another opportunity to the other body to finally deal with energy policy that is so important to our constituents.

With gas over \$2 a gallon in many areas, it is clear Americans are paying for legislative inaction. It is not just gasoline; it is also high natural gas prices that are hurting both our Nation's agriculture and manufacturing.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to support a strong, pro-growth comprehensive energy policy that will allow the United States to remain competitive and create jobs at home.

HONORING DETROIT PISTONS

(Ms. KILPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, how about those National Basketball Association World Champion Detroit Pistons? Congratulations. We applaud and appreciate their fine work as they swept the Los Angeles Lakers. To Mr. Davidson, Coach Brown, and the entire Piston organization, job well done.

Mr. Speaker, I say a special thanks to Ben Wallace, Tayshaun Prince, Rasheed Wallace, Rip Hamilton, and the Most Valuable Player of the series, Chauncey Billups.

On behalf of Mayor Kilpatrick, the people of Detroit, and the entire State of Michigan, we congratulate the Pistons. A team effort—which is what life is all about.

Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) mentioned, we have a resolution and invite all of our colleagues to cosponsor. You go, Pistons. We appreciate and love you very much.

ANNE FRANK'S 75TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, June 12, 2004, we celebrated what

would have been Anne Frank's 75th birthday. Anne Frank documented her life during the Nazi occupation of Amsterdam in a diary that she called *Kitty*. The diary became her confidant in which she wrote about her family's horrific experiences.

Anne has come to be a girl we all feel we know, a personification of good in the face of hatred, murder, and genocide. Sadly, Anne died in a Nazi concentration camp at the age of 15.

"Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl" has been translated into 67 languages and has sold more than 31 million copies. For many students, this book is their first experience to the horror of the Holocaust. Anne Frank is an inspiration to people of all faiths and is a symbol of children throughout the world who suffer in war and oppression.

Anne's own words are still as meaningful today as when she wrote them. The Anne Frank Exhibit is on permanent display at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I would just say, happy birthday, Anne. She and her message will never be forgotten.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CHRIS SEMOS

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of my good friend and neighbor, Chris Semos, who died Monday morning at age 68. He was an even-tempered gentleman who provided leadership to his community and to his church. A long-time resident of the Oak Cliffs section of Dallas, Chris served eight terms as a Democratic member of the Texas legislature from 1966 to 1982.

Following that, he served 12 years as a member of the Dallas County Commissioner's Court. He was a thoughtful public servant who worked cordially with members of both parties to benefit his beloved Oak Cliff, his county, and his State.

Additionally, he was a nationally recognized leader of the Greek Orthodox Church. In fact, he met his wife of 37 years, Tassie, at a church conference in North Carolina.

For many years, Chris operated a popular restaurant in Oak Cliff, The Torch, where we shared baklava on many occasions. The victory party for my first successful race for Congress in 1978 was in the back room of The Torch.

Chris quietly made his influence felt in many ways. He introduced the current mayor of Dallas, Laura Miller, to her husband, Steve Wolens, who succeeded Chris in the State legislature. He was recently recognized by the Oak Cliff Lions Club as its Humanitarian of the Year. We will all miss a great community leader, Chris Semos.