



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

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

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2004

No. 89

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Dr. Keith Boone, Pastor, First United Methodist Church, Rockwall, Texas, offered the following prayer:

O Lord God, You call us to do the right thing for the right reasons, that from sea to shining sea we may experience the joy of freedom, and the benefits of our labor.

We are a Nation under You, O God, under Your grace and under Your judgment.

We are a blessed Nation, but confess we squander many of the resources You so freely give us.

May we live in such a way that our behaviors match our beliefs.

Grant us courage to speak for those who are voiceless, to seek justice for the powerless, and to stand as a beacon of compassion before a dark and desperate world.

May we be mindful and thankful for those whose sacrifice allows us an abundance of blessings.

Above all, may we honor our heritage, embrace the present, and discern the future You would will for our Nation.

In Your Holy name 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.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. BONNER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic 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 without amendment, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4635. An act to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

### WELCOMING DR. KEITH BOONE, PASTOR, FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker for having my pastor here to pray over this Congress and to pray over the Nation. Keith Payne Boone is a native of Dallas, Texas, a graduate of my alma mater Southern Methodist University. He has Methodist in his veins from head to toe. His grandfather was the legendary Bolton Boone who headed up the Golden Cross. It was the first ecumenical charity. I was a member of that board some 50 years in Dallas. Keith was not around at that time, but he is a leader in the Methodist Church of Rockwall, Texas. The Dallas News carried, I think 3 months ago, that Rockwall County was the fastest-growing county in the United States. That is how fast our church is growing with the great pastor.

I thank Pastor Keith Boone, my friend, friend of my family, Mary Ellen and my entire family, friend of Methodists, Baptists, and all denominations alike in Rockwall. Thank him for the prayer. Thank him for what he has done, what he is doing, and what he will do for this Nation.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize 10 one-minutes on each side.

### DRILLING IN ANWR

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, this week is the first week in summer. Gasoline prices are high as we enter into the summer driving season. So energy independence should be a goal of this Congress. Worldwide demand for petroleum has increased in the last decade, but the growth in production has been relatively flat.

The inevitable result is higher prices at the gasoline pump. The reality is it takes a long time to go from an oil field to a gas station. We have lost considerable time in that regard.

In 1995 in the 104th Congress, H.R. 2491 would have allowed oil exploration and drilling in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge. The Department of Energy has estimated that between 1 and 1.3 million barrels of oil a day could be derived from this source. Unfortunately, this legislation was vetoed by the previous administration. And that was nearly 10 years ago. Given a timeline of 7 to 14 years for building a pipeline, it is time that we could scarcely afford.

Mr. Speaker, I have been to ANWR. The vast coastal plain is unsuitable for habitation during the summer months because of its marshy consistency. The people who live in ANWR are counting on this Congress to do the right thing and allow them, the rightful owners of these mineral rights, to begin developing the resources that were granted to them upon statehood in 1959.

As we say in Texas, "Time's a wastin'."

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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