



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 152

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2006

No. 1

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOLF).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This being the day fixed pursuant to the 20th amendment to the Constitution of the United States for the assembly of the Second Session of the 109th Congress, the House will be in order.

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 3, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable FRANK R. WOLF 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: Lord God, foundation of faith and provident guide of our Nation's history, we implore You to guide, protect, and strengthen the United States House of Representatives during this Second Session of the 109th Congress.

Help these duly elected Representatives of the people be about the work of the people. Make this democratic Republic strong, that it may be Your fit instrument to unite the natural and human resources of this Nation, that Your people may live ordered lives under the law and in harmony with others and so be a beacon of hope for the world.

In You and from You we draw our inspiration and creativity. In You and from You, Lord, we find lasting peace and universal justice both now and forever. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KILDEE 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 619, 109th Congress, as amended by section 2 of House Resolution 640, 109th Congress, organizational and legislative business is dispensed with on this day.

The House will follow the practice announced by the Speaker at the convening of the Second Session of the 106th Congress under a similar order. Bills and resolutions introduced today will be numbered today but will not be noted in the RECORD or referred by the Speaker until January 31, 2006. Executive communications, petitions, and memorials will not be numbered or referred until January 31, 2006.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, Speaker pro tempore TOM DAVIS of Virginia signed the following enrolled bills on Friday, December 30, 2005:

H.R. 972, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1815, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes;

H.R. 2017, to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3179, to reauthorize and amend the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994;

H.R. 3402, to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4501, to amend the Passport Act of June 4, 1920, to authorize the Secretary of State to establish and collect a surcharge to cover the costs of meeting the increased demand for passports as a result of actions taken to comply with section 7209(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004;

H.R. 4637, to make certain technical corrections in amendments made by the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED AFTER SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Haas, Clerk of the House, after sine die adjournment of the first session, 109th Congress, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, on December 30, 2005:

H.R. 972. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1815. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2017. An act to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3179. An act to reauthorize and amend the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994.

H.R. 3402. An act to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and for other purposes.

□ 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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H.R. 4501. An act to amend the Passport Act of June 4, 1920, to authorize the Secretary of State to establish and collect a surcharge to cover the costs of meeting the increased demand for passports as a result of actions taken to comply with section 7209(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004.

H.R. 4637. An act to make certain technical corrections in amendments made by the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House reports that on January 3, 2006, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 972. To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1815. To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year.

H.R. 2017. To amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and for-

eign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3179. To reauthorize and amend the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994.

H.R. 3402. To authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4340. To implement the United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement

H.R. 4501. To amend the Passport Act of June 4, 1920, to authorize the Secretary of State to establish and collect a surcharge to cover the costs of meeting the increased demand for passports as a result of actions taken to comply with section 7209(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004.

H.R. 4637. To make certain technical corrections in amendments made by the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 326, 109th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 326, 109th Congress, the House stands

adjourned until noon on Tuesday, January 31, 2006.

Thereupon (at 12 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 326, the House adjourned until Tuesday, January 31, 2006, at noon.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

[The following action occurred on Dec. 31, 2005]

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 921. Referral to the Committee on Education and the Workforce extended for a period ending not later than February 3, 2006.

H.R. 1631. Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than February 3, 2006.

H.R. 2829. Referral to the Committees on the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, Education and the Workforce and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence extended for a period ending not later than February 3, 2006.

H.R. 3699. Referral to the Committees on Resources and Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than February 3, 2006.



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Vol. 152

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2006

No. 1

Senate

The 3d day of January being prescribed by the Constitution of the United States for the annual meeting of the Congress, the 2d session of the 109th Congress commenced this day at 12 noon.

The Senate assembled in its Chamber at the Capitol.

The Senate was called to order by the Honorable ROBERT F. BENNETT, a Senator from the State of Utah.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read a communication to the

Senate from the President pro tempore [Mr. STEVENS].

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 3, 2006.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule 1, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ROBERT F. BENNETT, a Senator from the State of Utah, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BENNETT thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.,
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2006

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2006.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:00 and 45 seconds p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, January 18, 2006, at 10 a.m.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND MEN'S SOCCER TEAM ON WINNING THE 2005 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the University of Maryland Men's Soccer Team, the 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association Champions. The Maryland Terrapins claimed the 2005 NCAA Championship, 1–0, over the University of New Mexico Lobos at SAS Complex in Cary, North Carolina, on December 11, 2005.

The University of Maryland Men's Soccer Team has had a very successful season of which we can all be proud. In addition to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship, the Terrapins won the 2005 Atlantic Coast Conference Regular Season Championship and had an overall record of 19–4–2. They also set a school record of 66 goals. Additionally, the Maryland Terrapins are the first team since 1992 to win the tournament as the number one seed.

The Terrapins' Men's Soccer Program has a history of successes. In just the past four seasons, the Terps have amassed 76 wins, the most in the NCAA during the 4-year span. In addition, the Terrapins won their first national soccer title in 1968, when it shared the title with Michigan State.

The coaches who have led the Terrapins to victory are Head Coach Sasho Cirovsky, Assistant Coach Russell Payne, and Assistant Coach Rob Vartughian. Also assisting the team were Associate Athletics Director Shawn Flynn, Trainer Terry Gee, and Adam Zundell with Sports Information. University of Maryland Athletics Director Debbie Yow was also essential to their success.

The gifted athletes include the following University of Maryland students: Spencer Allen, Matt Beckman, Kenney Bertz, Marc Burch, Robbie C'deBaca, Kwame Darko, A.J. Delagarza, Michael Dello-Russo, Maurice Edu, Jason Garey, David Glaudemans, A.J. Godbolt, Aki Kadotani, Stephen King, Chris Lancos, Michael Marchiano, Kevin Reiman, Doug Rodkey, Robbie Rogers, Craig Salvati, Chris Seitz, Kevin Tangney, Michael Vallie, Pat Wilson, and Graham Zusi.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to promoting discipline and health, collegiate athletics provide a wonderful training ground for future leaders and I expect that we will see great things come from these young men in the future. I applaud the University of Maryland's 2005 Men's Soccer Team on its success.

SAGO MINE COAL MINING ACCIDENT

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all West Virginians, our hearts and prayers are with the families and loved ones of those who are trapped in the Sago Mine in Upshur County, West Virginia. We extend our hope that families will be reunited and lives will be saved.

Once again, when it mattered most, West Virginians have risen to the occasion. The men and women who are tirelessly dedicating their efforts to recovering our fellow Americans are to be commended and applauded. The community that is extending their support to the families and friends who are patiently waiting at this critical time are also helping in this difficult and tenuous time.

Though we are all anxiously anticipating their safe return, I urge everyone to take a moment and ask our Creator for his full support in these efforts. As a West Virginian, I am proud of the way both our state leaders and residents have responded to this disaster.

30 YEARS OF JOURNALISTIC LEADERSHIP

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and my colleagues, the gentlewoman from Wisconsin, Ms. BALDWIN, and the gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. FRANK, I submit these remarks commemorating a very important anniversary in the historic struggle of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people for equal treatment under the law.

Thirty years ago, in 1976, the notion of organized activity to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity was an extremely controversial one. Nowhere in America did lesbian, gay or bisexual people have any legal protections against being dismissed or otherwise disadvantaged in the job market. Eleven years before that, when Congress passed what was generally considered to be a liberalization of U.S. immigration law, that law included on the recommendation of Democratic Presidents and adopted without dissent in a Democratic Congress a tightening on the prohibition against gay or lesbian people even being tourists in the United States. Here in the Congress, no serious effort was underway to deal with the severe legal and other handicaps that were imposed on our fellow gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender citizens.

But the stirrings of change were apparent for those who look closely. One of the most

important examples of this was an event little noticed at the time, but which has turned out to be of great significance in the ongoing battle against homophobia. On January 26, 1976, a courageous, thoughtful, committed young gay man named Mark Segal presided over the publication of the first issue of the Philadelphia Gay News.

PGN is now widely known for its leadership role in one of the great fights for social justice that has marked recent American history. It was started in a rundown building at 13th and Locust Streets in Philadelphia, a building which lacked plumbing and electricity. What it did not lack was heart and brains. From the outset, under the leadership of Mark Segal, PGN has been a strong force for fairness in our society.

It was under PGN's auspices that the first mayoral forum was held in Philadelphia where all of the candidates for that office spoke to the issues facing the LGBT community. Later PGN organized the first AIDS awareness day in the city, and it has grown both in size and influence throughout its history.

Mark Segal deserves congratulations for his role as the sole owner and publisher of PGN for 30 uninterrupted years—a longevity record for LGBT newspapers, and an admirable record for any media outlet in these days of increasing corporatization and the diminution of journalistic independence.

The work of Mark Segal and PGN has been honored by a wide range of organizations, including LGBT advocacy groups, and professional journalistic associations. They include the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation; the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association; The Society for News Design; and The Society for Professional Journalists.

Emblematic of Mark Segal's refusal to accept anything less than equality for himself and members of the LGBT community is the fact that he now sits on the Board of the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association, which for 15 years had refused to allow PGN even to join. Mr. Speaker, as the Member of the House in whose district PGN is published, I speak from personal experience of its importance as a respected and invaluable source of information, much of which would otherwise go unpublished. And I know that my colleagues from Wisconsin and Massachusetts share my high opinion of the extraordinary important role that PGN plays in our fight against prejudice.

Mr. Speaker, for 30 years, in the face of a good deal of initial hostility and subsequent indifference at best, Mark Segal and PGN have shone the light on sexual orientation and gender identity prejudice not just in the United States but in the world, and have helped to diminish it—although we obviously have a long way to go. I am very proud to be able to salute this important pioneer in the fight for social justice, and to express my confidence, and that of my colleagues from Wisconsin and Massachusetts, that as long as there is a need to combat homophobia, we will be able to count on PGN's leadership role.

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CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY TEAM ON WINNING THE 2005 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding 2005 National Championship Women's Field Hockey team at the University of Maryland. On Sunday, November 20 in Louisville, Kentucky, the Terrapins defeated Duke University 1–0 to capture the 2005 National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship crown. This year marks the Terrapins' fourth NCAA title overall and their first NCAA title in 6 years.

The University of Maryland Women's Field Hockey Program has achieved several significant honors this year. The Terps earned a No. 1 final ranking by the National Field Hockey Coaches Association. Five Terrapins were named All-Americans, while three were also named All-ACC. Nine team members were named to the Mid-Atlantic All-Region team. The Terrapin defense was ranked second in the Nation and the offense was among the top 15. Finally, the University of Maryland ended the season with a 23–2 record, the most wins since 1999, and recorded its fifth 20-win season in program history.

The coaches who have led the Field Hockey team to victory are Head Coach Missy Meharg, Assistant Coach Tjerk (T.J.) van Herwaarden, Assistant Coach Marybeth Freeman, Assistant Coach Clemens Arnold, Trainer Sandy Worth, Assistant Trainer Joey Sierzega, and Strength & Conditioning Coach Barry Kagan. Also deserving recognition are Jim Knight with Equipment, Natalia Ciccone with Media, and Supervisor Troy Tucker.

These talented young athletes include the following University of Maryland students: Emily Beach, Kendall Beveridge, Jackie Ciconte, Kristina Edmonds, Megan Fox, Alica Grater, Paula Infante, Linzi Jones, Danielle Keeley, Meredith Long, Tiffany Marsh, Kathryn Masson, Katie Mockus, Ellen Ott, Louisa Powell, Lauren Powley, Christina Restivo, Susie Rowe, Sarah Scholl, Emily Trycinski, Janneke van Leeuwen, and Kim Ziegler. University of Maryland Athletics Director Debbie Yow was also essential to their success.

Mr. Speaker, collegiate athletics promote camaraderie, leadership, responsibility, and good health. They are a vibrant and essential component of American culture. I commend the University of Maryland's 2005 Field Hockey team and wish each of its members great success.

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY
SUGAR BOWL VICTORY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this time to personally congratulate West Virginia University on their victory last night in the 2006 Sugar Bowl. All of us in West Virginia

are proud of the players and the coaches for their tremendous effort put forth on behalf of the Mountain State. I would like to personally congratulate Coach Rodriguez, his players and his coaching team on such a "sweet" victory. Thanks for making us proud to be Mountaineers.

HONORING THE CITY OF MIDDLETON, WI ON ITS SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the city of Middleton, WI.

While first inhabited by Native Americans, then home to French fur traders and, later, English and German settlers, the area we now call Middleton marks its official birth with the arrival of the railroad there in 1856.

The history of this vibrant community is well-documented. We know of the fur-trading post opened in 1832 by the area's first carpenter, Michael St. Cyr. Records tell us of Orson Cook, the first permanent settler in the East Middleton area in 1841. The name, Middleton, we are told, was chosen by the first postmaster, Harry Barnes, after a town in Vermont.

The settlements of Pheasant Branch, East Middleton, Middleton Station and others coalesced when the train depot became a hub around which local businesses prospered.

One hundred fifty years after the first trains arrived, Middleton's downtown is thriving. New businesses are rising in the footprints of the old. The people of this 21st century community are still guided by the "good neighbor" practices of those who came before.

The current residents of Middleton treasure historic structures of the past: the Old Stamm House, once a station on the "underground railroad"; the Blacksmith Shop on Branch Street; Arneson's Café on Parmenter Street where folks could collect mail on one side and buy stationery and sweets on the other, to name just a few.

But they are also looking to the future, supporting a superb public library, a dynamic senior center, a community pool, and a performing arts center. Though barely miles from the State capital, the people of Middleton cede no civic pride or responsibility. Volunteers sustain and support emergency services and community functions.

On its sesquicentennial, I salute the city of Middleton and its people and wish them many more years of prosperity.

IN MEMORY OF SGT REGINA REALI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the memory of SGT Regina Reali who lost her life defending our nation in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sergeant Reali, 25, was born in Denair, California, then relocated to the central San Joaquin Valley. She was a 1999 graduate of Fresno High School and enlisted to serve in the U.S. Army in 2000. Ms. Reali's military career includes graduation from basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and advanced individual training as a civil affairs specialist at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare School and Center at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Ms. Reali's dedication led her to receive various awards, including the: National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" Device, Army Service Ribbon and the Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge. Upon completion of training, Ms. Reali reported to her first assignment as a civil affairs specialist with the Army Reserve's 351st Civil Affairs Command, based at Mountain View. Shortly after her deployment to protect our country, Ms. Reali's leadership efforts were recognized and she was promoted to sergeant.

Unfortunately, Regina Reali's tour in Baghdad, Iraq ended when an improvised explosive device detonated near her military vehicle on the 23rd day of December 2005. In recognition of Sergeant Reali's dedication and sacrifice, she has been recommended to posthumously receive several awards that portray her strength of character, such as the: Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal and the Combat Action Badge. Finally, Sergeant Reali was recommended to receive the Purple Heart, the oldest military decoration in the world, awarded to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded in the line of action.

Regina Reali is survived by her father Richard of Atwater and her brother and his wife Paul and Pricilla of San Diego.

I would like to extend my heartfelt sympathy and most sincere condolences to Sergeant Reali's family.

It is my belief that SGT Regina Reali's loss symbolizes the ultimate sacrifice one can make for her country. Her humble service to our Nation demonstrates her valor, strength, courage and pride. Americans all across the Nation are indebted to Sergeant Reali for her sacrifice and her efforts to uphold the principals of democracy, which will serve as an example to all of us for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO TODD PATKIN, YOUNG LEADER AND PHILANTHROPIST

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a young man who is part of the new generation of philanthropic leaders—Todd Patkin of Massachusetts. Todd is an impressive young man, and although he has just turned 40, he has been remarkably successful in the business world and is now devoting his life to helping others.

Todd grew up in the Boston area, where he graduated from Tufts University. He married, had a family, and worked in the family auto parts business for the next 18 years. Using his amazing organizational and business talents, the company became remarkably successful,

expanding from 18 to 62 stores in the New England and New York area. His business acumen was recognized in 2004 by Auto International Associate when he was named "Young Executive of the Year."

Mr. Speaker, Todd recently sold his regional business operations to the second largest retailer in the country, giving him the financial freedom to pursue his passion to help others.

One of his major philanthropic initiatives has been to assist his friend, Gary Marino, to help Americans children and adults with problems of obesity and poor nutrition. Todd is funding the making of a major motion picture which focuses on Gary's life story and on his "Million Calorie March" from Florida to Boston in which took place in 2005.

Working with opera star Andrea Delgadice, Todd also founded the Todd G. Patkin Opportunity Performing Art Center. It brings the highest quality vocal, dance and acting in-

struction to its students, many of whom are from the less-advantaged areas of Brockton, Massachusetts, and are receiving full scholarships because of their economic need.

Todd recently made a substantial contribution to the Boston Medical Center for its Todd and Yadira Patkin Sickle Cell Anemia Clinic. He has also provided significant financial support to the Boston chapter of the Anti-Defamation League, where he and Andrew Tarsy will be managing a new initiative to combat bigotry and intolerance in greater Boston.

Todd has had a positive impact internationally as well, Mr. Speaker. He supports two charities in the State of Israel—the Jewish National Fund, which is chaired by Ronald Lauder, and the Yemin Orde Youth Village headed by Chaim Peri. The village is perhaps the most advanced orphanage in Israel and the world. It focuses on helping children, who frequently have been orphaned under dev-

astating circumstances, to become happy and productive members of society. Today over two-thirds of the 300 children in the village are Jews of Ethiopian descent.

Todd was the first philanthropist in September of this year to provide one million dollars to the Jewish National Fund to help it deal with some 2,500 displaced people who left the Gaza when the Israeli government left that area. The Israeli government was unable to assist them since these families failed to provide information to the government about their assistance needs.

Mr. Speaker, Todd Patkin is a remarkable man, whose philanthropic efforts give me great hope for the next generation of leaders in our country who are now emerging. I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to him. Todd has set a remarkable example that I hope many other young leaders will follow.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Second Session of the One Hundred Ninth Congress convened as prescribed by the Constitution of the United States.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, page S1

The Senate met in a pro forma session to convene the second session of the 109th Congress at 12:00:04

p.m., and adjourned at 12:00:45 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Wednesday, January 18, 2006. **Page S1**

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: There were no public bills or resolutions in today's Record.

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Wolf to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1**

Convening of the Second Session of the 109th Congress: The Chair announced that, pursuant to section 2 of H. Res. 619, 109th Congress, as amended by section 2 of H. Res. 640, 109th Congress, organizational and legislative business is dispensed with on this day. The House will follow the practice announced by the Speaker at the convening of the second Session of the 106th Congress under a similar order. Bills and resolutions introduced today will be

numbered today but will not be noted in the record or referred by the Speaker until January 31, 2006. Executive communications, petitions, and memorials will not be numbered or referred until January 31, 2006. **Page H1**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no quorum calls or votes developed during the proceedings of the House today.

Adjournment: The House met at 12:00 noon and pursuant to H. Con. Res. 326, 109th Congress, adjourned at 12:05 p.m. until noon on Tuesday, January 31, 2006.

Committee Meetings

No Committee meetings were held.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, January 18

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Tuesday, January 31

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business.

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday, January 31st: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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 Brady, Robert A., Pa., E1
 Costa, Jim, Calif., E2
 Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E1, E2
 Lantos, Tom, Calif., E2
 Rahall, Nick J., II, W.Va., E1, E2



Congressional Record

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