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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, Creator and Author of the Sabbath, bless the approaching week-end.

Lord, fill our airways, our newspapers, our conversations, and the minds of our children with the stories, the dreams, and the words of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

Fifty years ago he said: "I am convinced that love is the most desirable power in the world. It is not an expression of impractical idealism, but of practical realism. Far from being the pious injunction of a utopian dreamer, love is an absolute necessity for the survival of civilization.

"To return hate for hate does nothing but intensify the existence of evil in the universe. Someone must have sense enough and religion enough to cut off the chain of hate and evil, and this can be done through love."

May these words, Lord, live on in the minds and hearts of America now and forever. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. DRAKE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. DRAKE 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

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain 15 one-minutes on each side.

### IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4

(Mr. SARBANES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, it matters what government does. Every day the policies we enact can make life easier or harder for ordinary citizens. It starts at 5 or 6 or 7 o'clock in the morning, when millions of senior citizens in this country begin their day by taking prescription drug medicine. That should be an experience that makes them feel like someone is looking out for them. Instead, the current part D program has left our seniors feeling anxious and confused. What they cannot understand, Madam Speaker, what no one can understand, because there is no rational explanation for it, is why the Medicare program has been prohibited from negotiating for lower drug prices. Of course there is an explanation: a deal was struck to benefit the insurance and pharmaceutical industries at the expense of our seniors.

Madam Speaker, the legislation before us today will repeal this prohibition and empower the Secretary to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries.

H.R. 4 makes common sense, and it does right by our seniors. I look forward to bipartisan passage of this important legislation.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Carlos Granados had a bad temper and a bad

attitude toward women. This violent predator that had assaulted at least two prior girlfriends moved in with Katherine Jiminez and her 3-year-old son, Anthony, in 1998.

He continued his demonic trait of abuse and began beating her up. She ordered him to leave. Carlos exploded. He attacked her, stabbing her over 30 times, slit her throat, and killed the baby she was pregnant with. The last words Katherine heard her 3-year-old son, Anthony, scream in horror were, "Don't kill me. I don't want to die. Don't kill me." Carlos stabbed Anthony in the heart. Katherine lay helplessly in a pool of her own blood for over a day until she was rescued, but she survived.

On Wednesday, the State of Texas put Carlos Granados in the ground. He was executed for his crimes against women and children.

Katherine's story is not a rare occurrence in the United States. One in four women will become victims of domestic violence in their lifetimes; their children will be likely victims as well.

Love never comes with black eyes, bruises and battery. My grandmother used to tell me, "You never hurt someone you claim to love." Wise words then, and the law now.

And that's just the way it is.

### PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

(Mr. MICHAUD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, today I strongly support the prescription drug bill that will be coming up today for a vote. I commend the leadership for bringing this legislation to the floor as a central part of the first 100 hours.

When the Medicare drug bill was being assembled, the pharmaceutical lobby convinced its authors to write rules into the bill that would forbid ever negotiating for lower-cost prescription drugs. These drug companies

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

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