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No. 74

House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FILNER).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 7, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BOB FILNER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, throughout our Nation's history, You have raised up men and women who have seen Your goodness in the beauty of nature and understand Your essential purpose in the unfolding of human events.

Henry Thoreau was an early American hero, and possibly a mystic, who wrote an account of his 2 years spent in quiet solitude at Walden Pond. What he wrote about early America became a classic, but he was an American classic himself.

Thoreau embodied the early spirit of nonconformity in breaking bonds of social hypocrisy. By taking time to seek spiritual truth, he wrapped himself in the beauty of nature and sought escape from a world in which "the mass of people lead lives of quiet desperation."

He wrote: "I went to the woods because I wanted to live deliberately, to confront the essential facts of life and see if I could not learn what life had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived."

Lord, awaken America today. Lift the Nation above hypocrisy and enable its people to face the essentials of government, the essentials of religious faith and the power of transformative love and daily service to others.

Renew in us hope, O Lord, so with Thoreau we might say: We live "with an infinite expectation of the dawn, which does not forsake us in our soundest sleep." 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. Will the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 4, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 4, 2007, at 10:48 a.m.:

Reappointments:

President's Export Council (1)

Appointments:

President's Export Council (2)

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 7, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Under Clause 2(g) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of

□ 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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Representatives, I herewith designate Ms. Deborah M. Spriggs, Deputy Clerk, and Mr. Jorge E. Sorensen, Deputy Clerk, to Sign any and all papers and do all other acts for me under the name of the Clerk of the House which they would be authorized to do by virtue of this designation, except such as are provided by statute, in case of my temporary absence or disability.

These designations shall remain in effect for the 110th Congress or until modified by me.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

GET THERE FIRSTEST WITH THE MOSTEST

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, does anybody realize there's a war going on out there in the desert sands of Iraq and the rough mountains of Afghanistan? Apparently not, or Congress would be taking care of our troops.

Mr. Speaker, the troops will be out of funds to carry the fight to the enemy by the end of June. So where's the money?

Spending money is what Congress does. Why hasn't this body provided the funds for our troops and equipment and for more personnel?

This is an emergency. Delaying will put our troops at risk. We should authorize the funds now; send equipment now and, if needed, send more troops.

The American people expect our military to do their duty. Well, the American people expect us to do ours as well.

Congress needs to quit talking about supporting the troops and put money where our mouths seem to be.

Nathan Bedford Forrest, successful Confederate general, said it best about winning and victory and the means to do so. He said: "Get there firstest with the mostest."

Congress needs to send the generals the mostest, Mr. Speaker, needs to send equipment and personnel that is needed. Doing this will help our mission in spite of the Congressional Surrender Group's desire to retreat and quit.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT-ELECT NICOLAS SARKOZY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate President-elect Nicolas Sarkozy, who the state newspaper has recognized as a "blunt and uncompromising pro-American conservative."

As a person of French heritage, I welcome this change of course in France. We appreciate that France was our first ally in the American Revolution,

as symbolized by the portrait of the Marquis de Lafayette here in the Chamber. France is a major investor in America, and I am grateful the midlands of South Carolina is home to three Michelin plants.

America and France have a common enemy in the global war on terrorism, and we have mutually beneficial goals of economic development for our citizens. The French Caucus in Congress looks forward to promoting our vibrant partnership.

The election of Nicolas Sarkozy is a welcomed change to restore the warm relationship America desires with France.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF HON. DAVID PRICE, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Dave Russell, District Liaison, Office of the Honorable DAVID PRICE, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 2, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a judicial subpoena for trial testimony issued by the Orange County, North Carolina District Court.

After consulting with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

DAVE RUSSELL,
District Liaison.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING AND WELCOMING THE LEADERS OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 355) recognizing and welcoming the leaders of the Pacific Islands to Washington, D.C., and commending the East-West Center for hosting the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 355

Whereas the United States is a Pacific nation;

Whereas the East-West Center, as established by the United States Congress in 1960, contributes to a peaceful, prosperous, and just Asia Pacific community by conducting cooperative research, education, and dialogue programs on critical issues of common concern to the Asia Pacific region and the United States;

Whereas the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders was created in 1980 at the East-West Center, which sponsors and supports this regional institution through its Pacific Islands Development Program;

Whereas the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders is the most broadly-based regional cooperation institution in the Pacific, including 20 leaders from both independent Pacific island nations and other Pacific governments;

Whereas for the first time in its history, through the cooperation of the East-West Center, the Department of State, and Congress, the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders is convening May 7, 2007, through May 9, 2007, in Washington, D.C.;

Whereas the United States has maintained deep and enduring relations with the peoples of the Pacific islands during times of peace and war and is linked to the Pacific not only through geography but also through common interest and values;

Whereas the governments of the Pacific Islands Region are key partners with the United States in combating terrorism in all its forms;

Whereas the United States and the Pacific island nations can enhance their cooperation in many other areas, including mutually beneficial trade and economic relationships, tourism, environmental protection, maintenance of fisheries, and other maritime resources, addressing climate change, democracy and good governance, and combating the spread of infectious diseases; and

Whereas there are increasing numbers of Americans of Pacific islander ancestry making myriad contributions to America's dynamism and diversity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes and welcomes the leaders of the Pacific Islands to Washington, D.C.; and
(2) commends the East-West Center for hosting the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution.

I would like to thank my good friend, the gentleman from Texas, for his assistance in managing this important legislation now before our colleagues.

I would also like to thank our distinguished chairman of the House Foreign