



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 154

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2008

No. 90

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 3, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JESSE L. JACKSON, Jr., to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rabbi Felipe Goodman, Temple Beth Sholom, Las Vegas, Nevada, offered the following prayer:

Our God and God of our ancestors, God of Compassion, God of Justice, God of Peace, we ask for Your blessing for this House of Representatives, for our country, and for all our leaders. Grant them, O God, the ability to lead us with true understanding of Your vision so that this land under Your providence be an influence for good throughout the world. Protect the men and women of our Armed Forces who stand in harm's way so that we may enjoy the blessings of freedom and liberty. May it be Your will that they speedily return in full physical and spiritual health to their families and loved ones.

Let us remember, O God, where we came from so that we may never forget the destination of our journey as a Nation. Let us be always mindful that we are all children of immigrants. Give us the wisdom to understand what the responsibility of fighting oppression, fighting poverty, and injustice really means. 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 gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BERKLEY 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.

WELCOMING RABBI FELIPE GOODMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to welcome Rabbi Felipe Goodman to the United States Congress. His credentials are as impressive as his spirit and his commitment. I know because not only is he my rabbi, he's my close personal friend.

Born in Mexico City, he is an alumni of Mexico City's University of the New World and obtained his master's degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary. Ordained in 1996, Rabbi Goodman now leads one of the most vibrant and fastest-growing conservative congregations in the United States, Temple Beth Sholom in my hometown of Las Vegas, Nevada.

In his 10 years of service, his congregation has grown from 100 to more than 700 families. He has built an entire new campus and is building a new home for its thriving school.

On January 5, 2007, 1 day after his 40th birthday, Rabbi Goodman became a United States citizen.

Rabbi Goodman is the co-author of "Hagadah de Pesaj," which is the most widely used edition of The Pesach Hagadah used in Latin America.

Singled-out by international leaders for both his ideas and hard work, Felipe became vice president of the World Union of Jewish Students.

He is one of 12 members of The Rabbinic Cabinet of The Chancellor of The Jewish Theological Seminary and serves as a member of The Joint Placement Commission of The Rabbinical Assembly, The United Synagogue and JTS. The Seminary recently appointed him to the Joint Retirement Board of The Conservative Movement. He's a former member of The Executive Council of The Rabbinical Assembly and its Nominating Committee.

But more than any degree or honor or appointment, he is an important, warm, caring, and respected spiritual and religious leader in Las Vegas, Nevada, a devoted husband to Liz; a wonderful father to YOSHUA, DANIELA, and ARIELA.

I am honored to have him here with us in the House today and honored to call Rabbi Felipe Goodman my rabbi and my friend.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN), the whole number of the House is 434.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills and joint resolution were signed:

□ 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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