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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

Rev. William H. Hild, Jr., First Baptist Church, Sarasota, Florida, offered the following prayer:

Our Father and our God, we beseech You this morning to grant unto this House abundant wisdom upon which debate and decision will be made. We pray for each and every esteemed Member, their spouses, their families, and the dedicated staffs who undergird them. May the great challenges that confront our land, debated in this Chamber, become opportunities for even greater blessing as, together, we seek Your will for this, our beloved Nation.

May we be reminded today that Your Word teaches: "Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord." We thank You for Your incredible goodness, remembering all Your many blessings both individually and as a Nation. We earnestly pray for a deeper desire to make You the foundation and center of our life as we offer this humble prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Arizona (Ms. GIFFORDS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. GIFFORDS 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 5938. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide secret service protection to former Vice Presidents, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2617. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to codify increases in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans that were effective as of December 1, 2007, to provide for an increase in the rates of such compensation effective December 1, 2008, and for other purposes.

WELCOMING REV. WILLIAM H. HILD, JR.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BUCHANAN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege and honor today to recognize and welcome my family's pastor, also my wife, Sandy, and my two children. He's been our pastor for the last 8 years. William Hild, since 1997, has served and led as the pastor of First Baptist Church of Sarasota, Florida. Accompanying him here today is his wife, Beverly, of 28 years; William Hild III, who also attends Georgetown Law School; and his sister, Kathy.

Since becoming pastor of First Baptist Church of Sarasota in 1997, Bill has helped to spread the church's ministry throughout our community, the State of Florida, the United States, and even across the world.

Under Pastor Hild's leadership, the church has organized over 20 Holy Land trips to Israel, Jordan and Egypt. These trips provide our members with a greater understanding of the Bible and a deeper appreciation of the work of God.

Here at home, Pastor Hild was a leader in the recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina. Under his leadership, First Baptist Church of Sarasota donated cash and pledges in excess of \$140,000 to help the victims of Katrina. The church also conducted multiple trips to the gulf coast region, delivering food and personal hygiene kits to those affected by the hurricane.

I want to thank my pastor, Pastor Bill Hild, for more importantly, his close friendship and guidance to me, and also providing today's prayer. Also, I would like to thank his wife, Beverly, and son, Will, for being with us today and his family and his many friends from back home watching here today on this very special day.

Thank you, Pastor Hild.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 10 further requests for 1-

□ 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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minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

EXTEND RENEWABLE ENERGY TAX CREDITS

(Ms. GIFFORDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the urgent issue of extending the renewable energy tax credits. These tax credits are due to expire this year. As we all know, their extension is critical to the young renewable energy industry in our Nation.

The House has passed extensions four separate times, and I applaud my colleagues for doing so. But our job is not done. I urge our colleagues in the Senate to work with us to pass a responsible extender bill quickly.

Solar power and other renewables are poised to be one of the biggest opportunities of the 21st century. Yet unlike our foreign competitors, we still haven't made a firm national commitment to this industry.

America can do better. We have always looked to the future, imagined a better world, and then partnered with the private sector to build it: railroads, the highways, the Internet as well. Government support was critical to every one of these technologies in its earliest stages. Renewable energy is no different.

I refuse to believe that we cannot get this legislation passed. I call on the leadership to pass it immediately. There's no time to waste.

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY EXPO

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

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning as the co-chair of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus in the House of Representatives, representing well over half of the full House, to praise today's 11th annual Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Expo being held all day long in the Cannon Caucus Room.

Republicans and Democrats will join in support of these most important investments in renewable energy: wind, solar, biomass, geothermal. We have an abundance of these opportunities. We need to grow this from 6 percent of our electricity utilization to much, much higher.

We believe that Members should lead, encouraging weatherization of your homes, new appliances in your homes, ways to conserve. Conservation is not for wimps. It's for warriors. Not every American will wear the uniform of our Armed Forces, but every American can help our country reduce the demand and lower the cost for energy.

It's a critical issue. Our all-of-the-above strategy includes a tremendous focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy conservation.

We encourage all Members to come to Cannon Caucus at any time today and join us in this most important bipartisan effort.

STOPPING THE FURTHER THEFT OF IRAQ'S OIL RESOURCES

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, just prior to the invasion of Iraq on March 17, 2003, the price of a barrel of oil was \$30.01, and the price of a gallon of gas was \$1.77, the average.

On July 29, 2008, the price of a barrel of oil was \$122.21, and the average gallon of gas, \$3.96.

The invasion of Iraq was about oil, but it didn't result in more oil or cheaper gas. It resulted in war profiteering by oil companies who benefited by keeping Iraq oil off the market. Remember the secret meetings between the administration and the oil company executives before the war?

Well, today, I'm going to introduce a bill which prevents U.S.-based oil companies from development of and investment in the petroleum resources of Iraq. This will discourage U.S. oil companies from profiting from the war and will stop the further theft of Iraq's oil resources by the very interests who have profited from the war for oil, the U.S. oil companies.

PROMOTING NEW AMERICAN ENERGY ACT

(Mrs. BACHMANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, as part of our action plan for energy, Republicans in the United States House of Representatives are asking that we push forward with an all-of-the-above energy plan to utilize every source of American energy to release us from our dependence on foreign oil.

That's why today I'm introducing, Mr. Speaker, the Promoting New American Energy Act which accelerates tax depreciation to 3 years for investments in newer, cleaner, more efficient technologies, including wind, solar, and geothermal, as well as others.

According to the nonprofit American Council for Capital Formation, American energy investments have less favorable tax depreciation rules in the United States compared to many other countries. This does not put America in a good position for alternatives.

My bill will bring America's tax depreciation schedule in line with those of our major trading partners overseas, which will put America on a better foot globally, and that means more jobs in the United States.

This will take us one step closer, Mr. Speaker, to increasing domestic energy production and making it more efficient.

As a member of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus, I ask my colleagues to promote newer, cleaner, more efficient energy solutions.

COMMENDING SANTA ANA POLICE DETECTIVE CHUCK SALLE

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2007, a young mother was executed in cold blood by her former live-in boyfriend. The woman's 11-year-old daughter was in the house and heard her mother begging for her life, then a pause, then a gunshot, and then silence.

Santa Ana Police Detective Chuck Salle, badge number 2005, was on assignment to the United States Marshall's Fugitive Task Force and was tasked with tracking down and arresting that suspect.

Task force members located the suspect in a crowded restaurant and arranged a meeting away from the public area. Detective Salle approached the suspect, identified himself as a police officer, and the suspect pointed his gun directly at Salle's head and fired. The bullet missed, officers returned fire, and the suspect fell to the ground fatally wounded.

Today, the Treasury Department will recognize Officer Salle with the highest valor award that they honor ATF agents with.

Today, I publicly commend and thank Detective Salle, the United States Marshall's Fugitive Task Force, and law enforcement officers all across this great Nation for their efforts in protecting and serving our communities, day or night, rain or shine, every minute of the day.

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LET'S VOTE ON AMERICAN ENERGY ACT

(Ms. FALLIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FALLIN. Mr. Speaker, in just 2 weeks, children from all across America and in my district will be starting back to school. All over America, school officials are struggling with the rising costs of fuel. They have to run their buses twice a day for the next 9 months. And in some States, they're already talking about cutting back on bus routes. They're already talking about forcing some children to have to walk to school, and even going to four-day-a-week school classes. That's just not inconvenient for our families and our children, but it's flat-out dangerous for our children, especially our young ones.

Day after day, we wait for this House and the Democratic leadership to allow