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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
May 14, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ELLEN O. TAUSCHER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker of the House Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, purveyor of all human events and Father of the ages, the times in which we live cause Your people to be filled with anxiety and hesitant to trust.

Make the Members of Congress strong in their defense of the most vulnerable in our midst, to inspire light in our darkness.

Make them bold in upholding moral principles and determined to do what is right for the Nation's stability, without feeling self-righteous or fearful of personal consequences because of their unified purpose to do what is best for this country.

If the times ask much of us, Lord, enable us to make sacrifices or to take risks that will ensure a better future for Your people.

Help us to stand strong because we place all our trust in You. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington 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. The Chair will entertain up to 10 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### IT'S TIME FOR AMERICA TO COME HOME

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, the American people have a right to know or ask what's going on here. We have trillions of dollars for war, trillions of dollars for Wall Street, and trillions of dollars for health insurance companies; but now we hear we have less money for Social Security and less money for Medicare. Is there a connection?

We must begin restoring our Nation by restoring the peace. And we begin today when we defeat the supplemental appropriation that keeps us in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Democrats were elected on a promise to end the war in Iraq; we are continuing it. Democrats were elected to get us out of Afghanistan; the war is escalating. And to top it all off, Members of Congress, we have a rule, it's in

the rule, which keeps Guantanamo open, keeps the prisoners there, despite the fact that many of them may have had their basic rights violated.

It's time for America to come home, start paying attention to creating jobs, health care, education, retirement security, investor security.

It's time for us to start paying attention here instead of running around the world trying to tell other people how to live.

### SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, a new report shows Social Security is a lot worse off than predicted. It's time for Congress to find real solutions to the Nation's ailing retirement safety net. The trustees' report predicts an even gloomier forecast than last year due to the economic downturn and the beginning retirement wave of the baby boomer generation.

The President and Majority Leader HOYER have rightly called for action to bolster Social Security's future. Congress must respond now by finding a solution.

As the lead Republican tasked with handling Social Security, I stand ready and willing to join Democrats and Republicans to get the job done now. The longer we delay, the more drastic Social Security's adjustments will be, the greater the burden will be on future generations, and the more detrimental the impact on our national economy.

Americans want, need, and deserve a Social Security system that works.

### AMERICA'S ADDICTION TO OIL

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

☐ 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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