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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 25, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOSÉ E. SERRANO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rev. Richard Fowler, Ninth Street Baptist Church, Covington, Kentucky, offered the following prayer:

Lord, God, Jehovah, I lift Your name in praise and thanksgiving for Your providing this Nation with resources, talent and opportunity. I seek Your forgiveness for our many sins of waste and frivolity. I seek Your guidance, direction and leadership in the areas of economics, social welfare for the masses and international peace.

I ask for Your wisdom in bountiful supply on our Nation's leadership as they address the serious issues, both national and international.

Bless them with the powers that bring a lasting peace to our cities, prosperity to our economy, hope to our youth, civility to our government, honor to our past and respect for our future. May they be constantly reminded that they are representatives of all the people of this Nation, both small and great.

May we be mindful of Your words, that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

In the Name of Jesus Christ, I pray. 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 Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas 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 REV. RICHARD FOWLER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Richard B. L. Fowler, a dedicated community servant and spiritual leader from the Fourth District.

Reverend Fowler was born and raised in Covington, Kentucky. He earned his bachelor's degree in engineering science from the University of Cincinnati and then attended the Cincinnati Bible Seminary, where he earned a master's in ministry degree.

He served our great country during the Vietnam War as a member of the Army stationed in Germany. Upon completing his military duty, Reverend Fowler began an impressive 28-year career with Procter and Gamble. During his tenure with the company, he acknowledged his call into the ministry and was ordained in 1979.

Reverend Fowler has served as pastor of the Ninth Street Baptist Church in Covington since 1983. And in addition to his duties at the Ninth Street Baptist Church, Reverend Fowler has contributed to his community as a member of numerous boards and committees, including the United Way, Northern Kentucky Children's Home, the Northern Kentucky Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Council, and our local community and technical college. He is also the founder and organizer of OASIS Incorporated, a nonprofit agency for education, community advocacy and substance abuse recovery.

On the 25th of June, Reverend Fowler marked the beginning of legislative business in the House of Representatives by offering the opening prayer on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Reverend Fowler in offering him our sincerest thanks for his years of service to Kentucky and to our Nation.

ELECTING CERTAIN MINORITY MEMBERS TO A STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. PENCE. On behalf of the House Republican Conference I offer birthday wishes to our beloved floor director, Jay Pierson, and I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 580

Resolved, That the following Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committee:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR—Mr. Kline of Minnesota, to rank before Mr. Petri, and Mr. McKeon, to rank before Mr. Hoekstra.

Mr. PENCE (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read.

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

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