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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. ROGAN].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 4, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable JAMES E. ROGAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rabbi Sidney S. Guthman, Congregation Sholom, Long Beach, CA, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Author of Liberty, to Thee we pray: Let there be for bigotry no sanction, for intolerance no assistance. For Thy bountiful blessings upon this land, we are, indeed, grateful beyond words.

We now humbly implore Thee to continue to favor us with Thy divine guidance. Inspire our legislators to reaffirm the principles of the Founding Fathers, and to embody them in wise laws.

We beseech Thee, O Merciful Father, to bless our country. May it ever be strong but just, firm but wise, a shining example for all mankind to emulate. Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light.

May all nations become aware of their common unity and all the peoples of the world be united in the bonds of brotherhood and peace before Thee, the Father of all. May this be Thy will. And let us say 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.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. 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 pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. THOMPSON] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON 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.

WELCOME TO RABBI SIDNEY S. GUTHMAN

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

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I have known our guest chaplain today, Rabbi Sidney Guthman, since moving to Long Beach in 1970. During the time I was president of California State University, Long Beach, he was deeply involved with the students as friend and as counselor. He is not only a spiritual leader in our region, he is also a popular community leader.

Rabbi Guthman has a long and distinguished record of service. At present he is serving as the president of the Interfaith Clergy Association of Long Beach, as well as chaplain of the Long Beach Police Department and chaplain of the Veterans' Administration Medical Center. He has served on the Long Beach Civil Service Commission by appointment of the mayor.

Rabbi Guthman is the respected conscience of our community. During any time of unrest or confusion, he is there writing articles for the newspapers, organizing forums for airing differences, and generally bringing people together.

This year Dr. Guthman celebrates the 60th year of his ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. It is an honor to have Rabbi Guthman serve as guest chaplain in the House of Representatives on this day. I thank Rabbi Guthman for his moving prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces that he will entertain fifteen 1-minute speeches on each side.

IN MEMORY OF FORMER MISSISSIPPI REPRESENTATIVE FRANK SMITH

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

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, my colleague from the Second District of Mississippi and I have the sad duty this morning to report the death of one of our former House Members from Mississippi, Frank Ellis Smith, who served

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