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No. 20

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 24, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMES A. LEACH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Bishop Alfred A. Owens, Jr., Greater Mount Calvary Holy Church, Washington, DC, offered the following prayer:

Most gracious and everlasting God, we thank You for this, another glorious day that You have allowed us to see, and we honor You for Your undying faithfulness towards us.

Lord, help us to continually hold up the light of Your love, and may we be always mindful of our collective duty to serve each other as we serve You.

Teach us Your ways and lead us in a plain path. Shine Your light upon the road that our Members of Congress must travel. Give them grace and truth to guide their every decision. Unite them under the banner of Your love and allow them to speak with one clarion voice that which You would have them say.

Teach us all to lean on Your everlasting arms, and give us the grace to lead according to Your everlasting Word. 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. PEARCE. 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 Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. PEARCE. 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 8, rule XX, 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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 California (Mr. FILNER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FILNER 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 Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3108. An act to amend the employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily replace the 30-year Treasury rate with

a rate based on long-term corporate bonds for certain pension plan funding requirements and other provisions, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 3108) "An Act to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily replace the 30-year Treasury rate with a rate based on long-term corporate bonds for certain pension plan funding requirements and other provisions, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. KENNEDY, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

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

S. 1786. An act to revise and extend the Community Services Block Grant Act, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, and the Assets for Independence Act.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 100-175, as amended by Public Laws 102-375, 103-171, and 106-501, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, after consultation with the members of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and the Committee on Aging, appoints the following individuals as members of the Policy Committee to the White House Conference on Aging—

The Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN); and
The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID).

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

□ 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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