United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2004 No. 52

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 21, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CHARLES F. BASS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Woodrow Hudson, Chaplain, Georgia Department of Corrections, Atlanta, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Gracious and merciful God, as we gather in this hallowed hall with the Members of the House of Representatives, we thank You for the great heritage of this body. May our interactions with others bring hope and courage. May our times together teach us patience and perseverance. May our session together be a time of learning and growth with productive results.

O God, protect us from knowledge that has no benefit. Protect us from a heart that is not humble. Protect us from a soul that is never satisfied. And protect us from a prayer that is never answered.

Help us to remember You, to reverence You, to obey You, to humble ourselves before You, to turn toward You in repentance.

Bless, O Lord, these women and men who are defending our country and our freedoms in these days of war.

We ask these things in the name of our Saviour. 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 Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COLLINS 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 without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1274. An act, to direct the Administrator of General Services to convey to Fresno County, California, the existing Federal courthouse in that county.

H.R. 2489. An act to provide for the distribution of judgment funds to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

H.R. 3118. An act to designate the Orville Wright Federal Building and the Wilbur Wright Federal Building in Washington, District of Columbia.

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. 1814. An act to transfer Federal lands between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE REVEREND WOODROW HUDSON

(Mr. COLLINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Reverend Woodrow Hudson, who gave this morning's opening prayer. Reverend Hudson is the Director of Chaplaincy Services for the Georgia Department of Corrections. He leads 118 field chaplains and approximately 4,000 certified prison volunteers in 39 of our State prisons, six transitional centers, six probation detention centers, and three private prisons in the State of Georgia.

In the Reverend's Chaplaincy Services section are the Prison Volunteers and the Reentry Aftercare Partnership. These volunteers offer and provide spiritual guidance to over 50,000 inmates in all of Georgia's correctional institutions. The Reentry Aftercare Partnership works with churches to provide guidance to inmates returning to their communities.

Before Reverend Hudson became Director of Chaplaincy Services in Georgia, he was a pastor for 32 years in churches in Mississippi and Georgia. He was active in many community organizations in each community where he served as pastor. Reverend Hudson resides in Carollton, Georgia, with his wife, Betty, and we welcome his wife in the gallery. They have been married for 45 years and have three children. And, Mr. Speaker, one of his daughters serves this Nation as an officer in the Secret Service.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I ask my colleagues to please join me in welcoming Reverend Woodrow Hudson, Jr., for his outstanding service to Georgia and for his outstanding opening prayer this morning.

NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE

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

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide a voice to those who too

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