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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 6, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROB BISHOP to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr., Senior Pastor, Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, California, offered the following prayer:

O God, Your sacred word teaches us the words of Jesus who said: ''Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.''

Teach us the religion of African American slaves who sang about laying down their burdens and studying war no more. Give us the knowledge for understanding how to remove the causes of violence. Open our eyes to see that violence as a solution only multiplies escalating violence.

Grant us the wisdom to make peace in our heads, hearts, homes, school houses and legislative houses. Grant us the courage to become advocates for the weak in our society, for the strong are their own advocates. May the fresh awareness of Your invisible presence guide each of us today as we seek not to be problems, but solutions for the ills of our hurting world.

Help the elected leaders of this U.S. House of Representatives serve as eyes for the blind, voices for the voiceless, and advocates for the last, the least, and the left out.

We pray this prayer in the name of the One who is wonderful, counselor, the Mighty God, the everlasting parent and the Prince of Peace. 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 gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX 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 PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 466. An act to deauthorize a certain portion of the project for navigation, Rockland Harbor, Maine.

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:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 4, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on August 4, 2006, at 10 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 843.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 3858.

That the Senate passed S. 1899.

That the Senate passed S. 3836.

That the Senate passed S. 2068.

That the Senate passed S. 2694.

That the Senate passed S. 3534.

That the Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 467.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

THE REVEREND DR. J. ALFRED SMITH, SR.

(Ms. LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome and to recognize my pastor who offered this powerful prayer as we opened our session today, the Reverend Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr., of the Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland, California, in my district.

Among his many accomplishments, Pastor Smith serves as a distinguished professor of Christian ministry and preaching at the American Baptist Seminary of the West and the Graduate Theological Seminary in Berkeley, and is the past national president of the Progressive National Baptist Convention and the American Baptist Church of the West.

From his work in helping ex-offenders to turn their lives around and successfully return to our community, to

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