



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 141

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1995

No. 15

House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m.

Rev. Elmer N. Witt, retired Lutheran pastor, Tacoma, WA, offered the following prayer:

God of Sarah and Abraham, whose name is Wonderful, Counselor, You are our nourishing Mother, our compassionate Father. Before the awesome responsibilities of this day and this life, we turn to You for our bearings and Your blessings. We depend on Your commitment to humanity and to creation: to hear our pleadings, to right our wrongs, to heal our failures, to fill our needs, to empower our discussions, and our decisions with Your love. In the midst of increasing hopelessness, enable us to invest our lives in our words and Your strength in our deeds. We ask this for the well-being of all people, in this Nation among nations. Lead us to be the best we can be, Gracious God, in Your holy name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance?

Mr. METCALF 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.

THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. BOEHNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, our Contract With America states that on the first day of a Republican House we will force Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else, that we will cut one-third of the committee staff, cut the congressional budget, and Mr. President, we have done that.

Mr. President, in the next 79 days, we will vote on the following 10 items: A balanced budget amendment, which begins today, and a line-item veto, a new crime bill to stop violent criminals, welfare reform to encourage work, not dependence, family reinforcement to crack down on deadbeat dads and to protect our children, tax cuts for families to lift government's burden from middle-income Americans, national security restoration to protect our freedoms, Senior Citizens' Equity Act to allow our seniors to work without government penalty, government regulation and unfunded mandate reforms, commonsense legal reforms to end frivolous lawsuits; and congressional term limits to make Congress a citizen legislature once again.

This, Mr. Speaker, is our Contract With America.

THE BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT, A CULMINATION OF LEGISLATION AND WORK BY DEMOCRATIC AS WELL AS REPUBLICAN MEMBERS

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

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, January 4, 1965, my first day in the Congress of the United States as a Democratic Member from Texas, I introduced a balanced budget amendment.

Mr. Speaker, few cared and less listened to me at that time. Through the

years, though, it has evolved into now that every freshman I run into asks me "Do you want to join my balanced budget amendment?"

The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that I want to show my colleagues what we have done. In the 12 years in which I was chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, we reduced the budget by \$65 billion. If every committee had done the same way, we would not be talking about balancing the budget today.

I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Texas, CHARLIE STENHOLM, because the years when I was serving as chairman, my time was limited and he took over the job and has done an excellent job. Today will be the culmination of my original legislation and his work through the years.

CONGRESS MUST SPEND TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUNDS TO BUILD INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, our transportation needs in America are increasing. Passenger travel on our highways is growing at a rate of about 3 percent a year. By the year 2000, not too far away, we will experience a 30-percent increase in freight travel on our highways.

Also, Mr. Speaker, airline travel continues to grow. It has doubled in the past 12 years, from 250 million passengers a year to 540 million passengers this past year, and at a 4-percent growth rate in the next 17 years, we will experience 1 billion passengers traveling on commercial airlines every year.

We need to spend our highway and aviation trust funds to keep building infrastructure for America. These transportation trust funds are deficit

□ 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.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

H 595