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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. BUNNING of Kentucky].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 15, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable JIM BUNNING to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rev. John H. Wengrovius, Calvary Episcopal Church, Golden, CO, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, who alone gives us the breath of life and in whose hands are held the peoples and nations of the world, send down upon this House of Representatives the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; to the Representatives give courage and foresight to provide for the well-being of the people of this Nation and the strength and will to fulfill their many obligations. In Your divine compassion, sanctify all our thoughts and endeavors, that we may neither begin an action without pure intention nor continue it without Your blessing. And to all in authority, grant the grace to ask what You would have them do to the establishment of justice and righteousness and to the furthering of Your peaceable kingdom. All this we ask in Your most holy name. 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 Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance?

Mr. TRAFICANT 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. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 395) "An Act to authorize and direct the Secretary of Energy to sell the Alaska Power Administration, and to authorize the export of Alaska North Slope crude oil, and for other purposes."

WELCOME TO REVEREND WENGROVIUS

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

Mr. SCHAEFER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be here today with our guest Chaplain, Reverend Wengrovius, and to thank him for his inspiring prayer this morning. Mr. Wengrovius comes to us today from my district in Golden, CO. His trip is very special, as he is visiting his daughter, Emily, a House page I had the pleasure of appointing. The Reverend has led Calvary Episcopal Church, in Golden, with a ministry focusing on help and charity for the en-

tire community. The church is also active with the Golden T and T—Tying Neighborhoods Together—a group who brings activities and goodwill to the area. His family includes his wife, Ruth, and three children. Jack is studying at the University of Southern California, Emily is a House page here in the District of Columbia for the remainder of her junior year in high school, and Jenny is in junior high. I invite you to join me in welcoming Reverend Wengrovius to the House floor.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

SUPPORT THE FUTURE BY BALANCING THE BUDGET

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the President's intentions are now crystal clear. This President is willing to sacrifice our children's future to satisfy his thirst for more spending, more taxes, and more bureaucracy.

For weeks he has been talking and just talking about wanting to balance the budget. But, Mr. Speaker, talk is cheap and does nothing to solve this Nation's problems. The President should end his little charade about caring for this country's future because it does nothing but undermine the credibility of the Office of the President.

It is time that he accept and embrace the Republican's effort to balance the budget. All America wants, needs, and deserves a balanced budget and a secure future. We must end the President's pattern of all talk and no action

□ 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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by balancing the budget, saving Medicare, reforming welfare, and cutting people's taxes. Support the future—tell the President to get behind the Republican Balanced Budget Act.

GINGRICH-DOLE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, this is day two of the Gingrich-Dole Government shutdown. The next time Speaker GINGRICH stands in front of the TV cameras, I hope the press will ask him a few questions.

Speaker GINGRICH, if your Government shutdown sent 800,000 Federal employees home without pay, why do you keep drawing your congressional paycheck?

Speaker GINGRICH, if your Government shutdown stops checks for the widows of American veterans, why should your congressional paycheck keep coming?

If we turned off the TV cameras and the machine printing congressional paychecks, this Gingrich gridlock would end in 5 minutes.

Tomorrow, in the Subcommittee on District of Columbia of the Committee on Appropriations, my congressional colleagues will have an opportunity to vote on my proposal: No budget, no pay. It stops congressional paychecks when there is a Government shutdown or a default on the national debt. Mr. GINGRICH should put his paycheck on the line, not everybody else's.

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS SCARING SENIORS

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

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the liberal Democrats would rather scare seniors than make good public policy. The evidence of pure political gamesmanship is clear and convincing. Listen to what the liberal Democrats are calling for today. They want to lower Medicare premiums. Have they lost their minds?

Mr. Speaker, Medicare is going bankrupt, and they want to increase the cost of the Medicare trust fund. The Federal Government is almost \$5 trillion in debt, Medicare is going bankrupt, and liberal Democrats want to increase the spending of the Federal Government. It is little wonder we owe \$5 trillion.

Mr. Speaker, we will save Medicare from bankruptcy. We are making the hard choices we were elected to make, and ladies and gentlemen, we will stand our ground. We will stand our ground and fight for the future of our children and our grandchildren.

NO MORE GAMES

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Speaker GINGRICH to present to the American people a clean, honest continuing resolution. No tricks, no gimmicks for Gingriches, just an honest government bill to keep the Government functioning.

Many of our financial problems are because congressional leaders have used the budget to make major legislative policy changes that only serves to compound our budget problems. In an honest budget, there is no place for Medicare premium increases, or in an honest budget, there is no place to cut student college loan programs.

Mr. Speaker, give this Congress and the American people an honest, clean budget. No more games with the budget; no more tricks on the American people; no more, Speaker GINGRICH. Give us a clean, honest budget.

COMMITMENT TO A BALANCED BUDGET

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

Mr. BUNN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, right now the Federal Government is in the process of shutting down. All nonessential services have been stopped temporarily while we wait for President Clinton to come to the table to seriously negotiate with Congress. While the President is busy golfing and playing other games the American people, Federal employees are not getting paid.

The President's plan may be par for the course, but it doesn't balance the budget and it isn't good enough.

The President still gets paid during this shutdown, he has nothing to lose. He doesn't understand how committed Congress is about balancing the budget. It is time for us to show the President and the American people just how serious we are about balancing the budget.

Under H.R. 2351 our salaries will be stopped if we fail to resolve our budget impasse. This bill will hold us accountable for our actions, something that the President is unable and unwilling to do.

The President once promised the American people that he would balance the budget in 5 years. Obviously he wasn't serious about doing that, it was just another campaign promise. Let's show the American people how committed we are to ensuring that our kids don't have to shoulder the debt we have incurred, let's pass H.R. 2351.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of time.

GI'S ON THE BORDER

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk about balancing the budget. There are 4 million illegal immigrants that have walked across our border, and the INS wants to build a big fence. Now, would you walk across the border illegally if you got free food, free housing, free health care, and free education? I think you would too. To boot, you do not have to pay one single dime of tax.

I say, Mr. Speaker, we have GI's falling out of chairs on arm rests overseas, and we have people illegally crossing our borders. Why do we not support H.R. 4387, put a few GI's and a couple of Jeeps on the border, maybe we will help to even balance our budget. Think about it.

HUMOROUS STUDY IN HYPOCRISY

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

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, this past week since the Government has been shut down it has been a very humorous study in hypocrisy watching the President of the United States and his minions here in Congress. They say they want to protect seniors, but talk is cheap.

Let us look at the record. Yesterday they voted to allow the President and Robert Rubin to raid the Social Security trust fund. A few years ago every one of them voted to raise taxes on Social Security recipients to 85 percent, and they did that without a single Republican vote supporting that. They voted in 1993 to raise taxes through the roof for working seniors and lower the level to \$11,000.

They have ignored the President's own trustees who have told us that Medicare is going bankrupt. Instead, they want to close their eyes and demagogue the issue, and they say, let us go ahead and let Rubin raid the trust fund. We can trust Bill Clinton.

Well, in 1992, was it not Bill Clinton who promised a middle class tax cut, and when he had a chance to define his budget priorities, the next year he passed the largest tax increase in the history of this country. In 1992, he promised to balance the budget in 5 years, and yet the deficit continued to soar.

REPUBLICAN PLAN TOO EXTREME

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

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, Mr. GINGRICH and Senator DOLE have shut the Government down so that they can get a tax cut to the richest 1 percent of Americans. The extreme program they