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House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. HANSEN].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 8, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable JAMES V. HANSEN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

O, gracious God, from whom all blessings flow, bestow upon us the gifts of Your spirit. Where there is hunger, may people know the gifts of Your bounty; where there is loneliness, may there be a spirit of sharing and caring; where there is violence, may people know security; and where there is anxiety or pain, may every person know the confidence and the healing that Your word can give. May Your blessings, O God, that are new every day, be with us now and evermore. 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 Minnesota [Mr.

GUTKNECHT] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GUTKNECHT 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 had passed with an amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1296. An act to provide for the administration of certain Presidio properties at minimal cost to the Federal taxpayer.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1467. An act to authorize the construction of the Fort Peck Rural County Water Supply System, to authorize assistance to the Fort Peck Rural County Water District, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning, design, and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces there will be fifteen 1-minute speeches on each side.

DOES ICWA REALLY PROTECT CHILDREN?

(Ms. PRYCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, the Indian Child Welfare Act has been misapplied and distorted in recent years, hurting countless children.

Consider the story I heard from a mother in Alaska. The little girl who is

now her adoptive daughter was placed in foster care at the age of 7 months due to the Indian Child Welfare Act. After a year, the baby was placed with a biological grandmother, a native American, with the understanding that her two sons, both convicted child sex abusers, move out and live elsewhere.

Well, they never left and the baby was found in a compromised situation, upon which the grandmother returned the child to the youth services with no explanations and no belongings. Only after this horrifying ordeal and after the native community failed to find a safe native home was she placed with this Native Alaskan couple who eventually adopted her.

The adoptive mother writes to me, "We are lucky. Our daughter was placed in only five foster homes before she found a family that was suitable to the tribe." There are many other children who are being kept from loving homes for 3, 4 and 5 years awaiting tribal action.

Mr. Speaker, this is a native American speaking. She knows ICWA needs reform. She knows firsthand.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, HARRY

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

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to our late President, Harry S Truman, on the 112th anniversary of his birth.

In his life and his Presidency, Harry Truman exhibited the characteristics of leadership courage decisiveness, humility, and deep respect for others. His no-nonsense, buck-stops-here approach to facing even life's most difficult situations enabled him to become one of our country's greatest presidents.

President Truman was a leader in the true sense of the word. He refused to let uncomfortable situations or unpopular opinions stand in his way of

□ 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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