



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 144

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1998

No. 55

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Dr. George Docherty, Pastor, Retired, Alexandria, Pennsylvania, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray. God of the ages, before even the mighty nations of the world have had their hour and now are part of history, we begin this new day invoking Thy blessings upon all our deliberations. Help us to see beyond the thrust and cut of debate and the issues that divide us, to behold again the all embracing unity of our people. Help us to regard the sacred phrase "one Nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all," to regard this sacred phrase as more than a noble sentiment from a historic declaration.

Grant to these men and women gathered here today strength in their demanding duties, clarity of purpose. Help them to see the ultimate vision of justice and that love that transcends all differences. 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 New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PALLONE 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, an-

nounced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1385. An act to consolidate, coordinate, and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs in the United States, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 1385) "An Act to consolidate, coordinate, and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs in the United States, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. COATS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. FRIST, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DODD, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. REED, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize 15 one-minute speeches on each side.

APPRECIATION FOR DR. GEORGE DOCHERTY

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

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I simply want to share with my colleagues what a wonderful thing it is today to have Dr. George Docherty back sharing with us and leading us in prayer. He grew up and attended public school in Scotland; in Glasgow, to be exact. At the age of 20, he heard his calling to become a minister.

In 1949, the Washington religious community was shocked by the death

of Dr. Peter Marshall, the Scottish preacher, who was both Chaplain of the U.S. Senate and Pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Marshall had identified a minister to preach in his church in his absence: George Docherty. In 1950, the congregation chose as its new pastor George Docherty. He held the congregation together and led the church into an active ministry for the underprivileged which continues to this day. He worked with Reverend Billy Graham on the Washington crusades and arranged for Reverend Graham's first crusade to Scotland.

For all of us this week, we should think about the notion, as we contemplate prayer and a National Day of Prayer, that Dr. Docherty convinced President Eisenhower and the Congress to add the words "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance. He is an example of why this is a great country, filled with good people who do amazing things.

The fact is that we all owe Dr. George Docherty a thanks for reminding us that the only true America is an America which recognizes that its blessings come from the Creator who endows it with its unique rights.

APPEAL MEANS STONEWALL

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, Judge Norma Holloway Johnson threw out President Clinton's claim of executive privilege regarding the latest crime or scandals in the White House.

No wonder. The President has been taking indecent liberties with the concept of executive privilege. He has hidden behind executive privilege in order to keep the American people from knowing the truth.

□ 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

H2819

According to press accounts, the White House may even appeal this decision. There is only one reason to appeal this decision, and that is to keep the American people from learning the truth.

Mr. Speaker, no man is above the law. Judge Johnson's decision affirms that basic American principle. No matter what strategy the White House decides to employ, the American people have the right to know the truth. An appeal by the President on this case would amount to one more effort to stonewall the Starr investigation and keep the truth away from the American people.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE INVESTIGATION

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

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I am shocked by the new discoveries that have been made by the editors of the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) in his so-called investigation. Just listen to this: It turns out that when Franklin Delano Roosevelt rallied our country during the Depression, what he really said was, "The only thing we have is fear itself." At John F. Kennedy's stirring inaugural, what he actually said was, "Ask not what you can do for your country."

Most shocking of all, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) has discovered that Republicans as well as Democrats have been misquoted through the years. Even George Bush, if the skillful editors of the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) were around in 1988, they may have changed history. In Burtonland, George Bush actually said, "Read my lips: New taxes."

Hard to believe? No harder to believe than the distorted, dishonest, and discredited tapes Mr. BURTON tried to fool the American people with. This deceit is shameful.

I guess the only thing the gentleman's committee's multimillion-dollar spending spree cannot buy is fairness and honesty. Do all Americans a favor and stop this charade.

MISSILE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TO CHINA

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, a news account last week detailed a Clinton administration proposal to begin space cooperation with China. Shockingly, the administration's proposal would permit the transfer of missile technology with the potential of enhancing Chinese nuclear weapon strategy, weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Speaker, according to experts, China has already supplied missile test equipment to Iran and other nations that have a clear vendetta against the

United States. Why is the Clinton administration allowing transfer of weapons technology to China? Are they naively believing this information is secure? Who are they kidding?

Constructive engagement with China is one thing, but providing technology for computer guidance systems, for ICBMs is not only outrageous, it is a direct threat to our national security.

This should be investigated. Although we should constructively engage China, our first and foremost concern should be protecting America's interest and prohibiting transfer of weapons technology which could threaten the Nation's security.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE INVESTIGATION

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, when someone takes on the job to be chairman of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, in this case, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), they have an obligation to be impartial in conducting the investigation.

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) has totally abrogated that responsibility, in particular this last week, in the way that he released the Hubbell tapes. The gentleman from Indiana carefully edited and rearranged the tapes, releasing them with errors and omissions so as to be damaging to the President.

I ask, how can the gentleman's committee's investigation possibly be fair when the chairman acts in this fashion? The public is tired of this investigation. It is expensive. It has cost over \$6 million so far. It takes away from the real issues that the House of Representatives should be addressing. But at least if the gentleman from Indiana is going to do the investigation, he should do it fairly. Since he cannot, he should be removed as the chairman in charge of the investigation.

IRS GETS A RAISE

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, tucked away deep inside the \$128 billion in new Federal taxes in President Clinton's new budget proposal is a \$529 million increase in the salaries for the Internal Revenue Service. That is right, Mr. Speaker. The IRS, the same out-of-control rogue Federal agency that has trampled the constitutional rights of millions of American citizens, is getting a pay raise.

We are all familiar with the saying, "if it is not broke, do not fix." However, someone needs to introduce this administration and my liberal colleagues to the concept that if it is broke, do not reward them with a half

a billion dollar pay raise out of the pockets of the American taxpayers.

In light of recent reports of taxpayer abuse by IRS agents, the President promised swift action. If a half a billion dollar pay raise is swift action, I would hate to see just what his long-range corrective action would entail.

Thomas Sowell, a noted economist, once said, "It is easy to be wrong, and to persist in being wrong, when the costs of being wrong are paid for by others."

APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL CONFEREES ON H.R. 2400, BUILDING EFFICIENT SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND EQUITY ACT OF 1998

The SPEAKER. The Chair announces as additional conferees from the Committee on Ways and Means to the conference on the bill (H.R. 2400) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes:

Mr. NUSSLE and

Mr. HULSHOF.

Further conferees will be announced later.

The Clerk will notify the Senate of the change in conferees.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE INVESTIGATION

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), chairman, has seriously threatened the integrity of the House and its ability to conduct a fair investigation. First, the gentleman released tapes which, as the Washington Post states today, mainly deal with "highly personal matters of no conceivable relevance to any public inquiry."

We discover that the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), chairman, is so determined to smear the President that he doctored those tapes and he altered the content to suit his own purposes.

We have a responsibility to investigate any wrongdoing, but the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) and Speaker GINGRICH have a responsibility to conduct that investigation fairly and impartially.

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) and Speaker GINGRICH have proven themselves incapable of being either fair or impartial. I call on them to remove themselves immediately from this investigation. Stop diverting attention away from the real issues, the issues that the American people want this House to consider: managed care reform, improving our public schools, and enacting real campaign reform. Let us put an end to this partisan investigation and let us get to work.