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## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

Dr. Carl Holladay, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray. Gracious God, we confess You as the one who inspired our beginnings as a people in quest of freedom and who sustained these hopes in times of threat and despair. In deep gratitude today, we remember this Nation's brave men and women, who died for the cause of freedom.

Bless this House as it deliberates today. Give those gathered here a special measure of Your wisdom. Let them do their work driven by a desire to serve the common good. Let them hear the plaintive cries of those longing to be heard. Let them know the hopes of those who live with noble dreams unfulfilled. Let them remember the prayers of those who long to be free.

We pray for peace and justice, knowing how the demands of justice compete with cries for mercy, yet willing to make ourselves instruments of Your peace in this world. 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 Pennsylvania (Mr. MASCARA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MASCARA 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 without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 171. Concurrent resolution declaring the city of Roanoke, Virginia, to be the official site of the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Services.

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

S. Con. Res. 73. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the European Union is unfairly restricting the importation of United States agriculture products and the elimination of such restrictions should be a top priority in trade negotiations with the European Union.

### GRANTING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE PRIVILEGE TO EXTEND REMARKS IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD TODAY

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that for today all Members be permitted to extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials in that section of the RECORD entitled Extensions of Remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize Members for eight 1-minute speeches on each side.

### WORKING U.S. CITIZENS SUFFER FROM DEMORALIZING AND CRUSHING TAX BURDEN

(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, incredible as it may sound, for the first 132 working days of this year, every penny earned by the hard-working men and women of Nevada did not go to pay for their kids' education, did not go to pay for their home mortgage, did not go to pay their medical insurance or expenses. Instead, it all went to this expanding government bureaucracy.

Fully one-third of the year's effort of these hard-working Americans has been spent just to pick up the tab for the bloated government bureaucracy. Decades of unchecked growth and deficit spending by the liberal tax and spenders has left the hard-working men and women of this country with this demoralizing and crushing tax burden.

The vast majority of Americans do not object to paying their fair share of taxes, but they do object to the suffocating level of taxation that exists under this administration.

Arthur Godfrey put it best when he said, "I'm proud to be paying taxes in the United States. The only thing is, I could be just as proud for half the money."

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the Republican proposal to eliminate the marriage tax penalty. Let us allow hard-working families to keep more, not less, of their money.

### RECOGNITION OF AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY

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

Ms. CHRISTIAN-GREEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my fellow Virgin Islanders in recognition of African Liberation Day, which will be celebrated on Monday, May 25, a day created in 1963 as a rallying point for freedom and

□ 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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