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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

Dr. James D. Strauss, Professor Emeritus, Lincoln Christian Seminary, Lincoln, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, as we finalize the 20th century, we are still searching for transcendence and meaning and community. We pray that integrity and moral commitment may dominate our decisionmaking as it affects American culture and our global village.

I pray that You, God, will be the foundation of our vision. Vision without strategy is impotent. Strategy without vision is powerless. The flies that light on the Sistine Chapel ceiling see but have no vision.

Oh God of Abraham, ruler of all that there is, DNA, black holes in space and periodic charts, give us vision and strategy as we search for transcendence and meaning and community wherein dwells our peace, hope, love and justice. Without Your presence, we are cosmic orphans in our daily lives and decisions. 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.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

### DR. JAMES D. STRAUSS

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

Mr. REDMOND. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege this morning to welcome to the U.S. House of Representatives Dr. James D. Strauss. Professor Strauss was born on July 3, 1929, at a transition time in our history. He has studied in the United States, France and Germany. Professor Emeritus of Lincoln Christian Seminary, Lincoln, Illinois, he has taught philosophy and theology for 30 years.

His special emphasis has been the influence of scientific development on the Christian world view. His major concern is to critique the impact of media and education on the Christian faith in our multicultural pluralistic era.

Dr. Strauss is no ordinary professor. For 40 years his sharp mind has ignited sleeping minds, his commitment has influenced great accomplishments in others, his servant's heart has moved others to service. His profound grasp of reality has inspired others in such a way that they understand their place in the universe. He has acknowledged that if he has made any contribution in his journey at all, it is because he has stood on the backs of giants.

With humility, we welcome to the House of Representatives Dr. James D. Strauss.

### THE MARRIAGE PENALTY

(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 rise today to bring to my colleagues' attention the fact that the House budget resolution, which will be debated today and probably voted on tomorrow, calls for about \$100 billion over five years in tax cuts. It specifically singles out the marriage penalty as a key tax burden that we should provide families relief from. Let me just say, I have a particular interest in this because my younger daughter got married earlier this year. She actually found out how much more she and her husband will pay.

But without drawing my own family directly into this, let me cite from Bobby and Susan from Marietta, Georgia, whom I represent. Bobby and Susan wrote in. They said, "When we figured our 1996 tax return, we figured what our tax would be if we were just living together instead of married. Imagine our disgust when we discovered that if we just lived together instead of being married we would have saved an additional \$1,000. So much for the vaunted family values of our government. Our government is sending a very bad message to young adults by penalizing marriage this way."

I just think this is a chance to vote a very simple principle. We can save 1 percent of spending over the next five years and get rid of the marriage penalty that punishes people for being married. I think to have a pro-family tax code with a slightly leaner government is a pretty good "yes" vote. I hope my colleagues will join me. Let us save 1 percent of projected Federal spending, get rid of the marriage penalty and send the right signal to all Americans.

### THE REPUBLICAN BUDGET SHOWS THE GOP'S TRUE COLORS

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

□ 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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