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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 28, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROBERT B. ADERHOLT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2989. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2989) "An Act making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. BOND, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. STEVENS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BYRD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. REID, Mr. KOHL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. INOUE to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following

titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1146. An act to implement the recommendations of the Garrison Unit Joint Tribal Advisory Committee by providing authorization for the construction of a rural health care facility on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, North Dakota.

S. 1194. An act to foster local collaborations which will ensure that resources are effectively and efficiently used within the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

S. 1768. An act to extend the national flood insurance program.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2003, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member, except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip, limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY).

ECONOMY ON THE MOVE

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, the American economy in the third quarter of this year gave more indications than ever that we have finally pulled ourselves out of the so-called "bin Laden slump."

And thanks to the hard work, resiliency, and ingenuity of the American people, the economy is growing at higher than expected rates, creating jobs, and spurring new investment.

The stock market is up. Jobless claims are down, and companies' earnings are roaring past projections, meaning that Americans saving for retirement are strengthening their retirement security.

But perhaps the leading economic indicator in the United States today is

the Democrat Party's desperate attempt to change the subject. Democrats' recent silence about the economy is understandable, for the rebound has not only taken away one of their principal political messages, it has also demonstrated the wisdom of President Bush's economic agenda, which we have passed over the last 3 years.

But just as the economy has responded positively to President Bush's proposals to lower taxes, encourage investment, and instill fiscal discipline, it would react negatively to those policies if they were reversed.

The budget-busting spending programs and crippling tax-hike proposals now in favor among the minority would spell disaster for the recovery. They would cost us jobs and stifle innovation, investment, and growth. The lost revenues would put a drain on the national treasury as we move forward to win the war on terror, maintain fiscal accountability, and meet the emerging needs of American seniors.

Only through the kind of growth that our job-creation tax relief measures have spurred will we be able to afford all these priorities.

There is much more to be done. But the most important item on the economic agenda is to check Democrat tax-and-spend plans to hamstring the recovery. Now that the economy is moving again, we have got to build on that momentum with a job-creating energy bill, fiscally responsible spending bills, and further success in the war on terror.

We have made our Nation safer and stronger since 9-11, and thanks to the leadership of President Bush, that security has brought us renewed prosperity. And one does not need to take my word for it, Mr. Speaker. Just listen to the sounds of the Democrat silence.

□ 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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