



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 150

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2004

No. 45

## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NETHERCUTT).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
April 2, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, our Redeemer and our Guide, take this country and make it truly Your own. May Your spirit animate our Nation's aspirations and bring about equal justice and a quality of the good life for all its citizens. May virtue abound in the character of the American people, and may our bonds of union be strengthened.

Bring the work of the House of Representatives to a just and blessed closure. As Members and staff begin to enjoy a spring break, we pray that You keep everyone safe and healthy.

May the religious holy days, which Jews and Christians celebrate in coming days, fortify people of faith and bring them joy, for You are the Lord our God, living and true, now and forever. 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 South Carolina (Mr. BROWN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina 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. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4062. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through June 4, 2004, and for other purposes.

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

S.J. Res. 28. Joint resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Allied landing at Normandy during World War II.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will receive five 1-minute speeches from each side.

### IN MEMORY OF ANDREW J. COMBS

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

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week my friend, Andrew J. Combs, passed away. Andy was from my hometown, Hanahan, South Carolina, and our friendship spans many decades.

Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues know his wife, Roberta Combs, President of the National Christian Coalition, whose work is widely known and appreciated by families across this Nation.

Andy was a great man, a World War II and Korean War veteran, a successful businessman and a Republican leader, and someone who devoted countless hours trying to make this world a better place. He triumphed in all of these areas while overcoming the ravages of polio contracted as an adult.

It is difficult to measure the impact that he has had on the many lives he touched. His commitment to serving others and to serving his community leaves a wonderful legacy.

Andy, my friend, you will be sorely missed, but we know that heaven has welcomed you with open arms.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in a moment of silence honoring this great American.

### MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AND MODERNIZATION ACT MEANS QUALITY HEALTH CARE AT LOWER PRICES

(Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, the Medicare Prescription Drug and Modernization Act not only modernizes the benefits seniors receive under Medicare by adding prescription drugs, but, for the first time provides seniors, with chronic illnesses, access to state-of-the-art, cutting-edge, preventive health care.

With seniors living longer, with one-third of our seniors living with five or more chronic illnesses and using 80 percent of Medicare's dollars, access to chronic disease management programs is necessary, fair, and right.

By offering such preventive care, made possible by modern technology,

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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