

St. John's Seminary Theologate in 1980 and is a priest in good standing with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He served with Cardinal Roger Mahony at the old Cathedral Church of St. Vibiana for 5 years.

His current assignment, we are sorry to see him go because he has brought our parish together and is adored by all of the children of the school and those that go to our church, will be assigned as pastor of Holy Trinity Church in San Pedro on July 1. We are very happy he was able to spend some time with us today and offer the blessings to the House.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you very much for allowing Father Brennan to give the morning prayer, and I thank Father Brennan for the ability to be here and our resident chaplain for allowing him to be here.

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#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1078

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1078.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

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#### SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this morning the news indicates that some of our Democrats have politicized the war in Iraq. It is a war against terrorism. We have got to support our troops. Our Secretary of Defense is doing a super job.

The question is, are we here in the United States of America as citizens going to support them to the hilt? When I was in Vietnam as a POW, we were scared to death that the United States was going to turn on us, politicize it and end it without getting us out.

They did get us out of Vietnam, but they did not get all of our people out of Cambodia and Laos, and it was because of the peaceniks who did not believe we could win.

We have to support our troops. Our freedom, our Nation, our liberty depend on it. God bless the United States.

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#### A PRESCRIPTION FOR CONFUSION

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to discuss the extreme frustration that our senior citizens are experiencing in applying for this Medicare discount card.

This card was created from a flawed Medicare prescription bill, so it is no

surprise that our seniors are having problems utilizing it.

The Houston Chronicle recently published an article about how confusing this discount card is for seniors. The article found the discount card more confusing than preparing your income taxes or dealing with an insurance company regarding a hospital bill.

With great fanfare on Friday, Medicare released a Web site to provide seniors with the ability to compare drug prices. The problem is a lot of our seniors do not have access to the Web site or are not proficient.

Even if seniors are willing to go through the steps, it is so confusing that our seniors cannot make a truly informed choice.

The story, unfortunately, gets worse for our seniors. They spend time and energy and brain power and choose the best card, and seniors are not even guaranteed that the company will hold up their end of the bargain. The company has no obligation to maintain its advertised price that is on that Web site or even carry those drugs for the full year. And yet our seniors, once they sign up, are stuck for that full year. Also, if they do not sign up now, then they lose their benefits. They get penalized if they do not sign up now. It is a flawed bill, and it is causing problems now.

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#### WINNABLE WAR

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I give thanks that we serve in a Chamber where we can champion differences of opinion. Yet I rise really more in sorrow than in anger to see the headline in today's Roll Call newspaper, the senior Member from the other side of the aisle now calls our war effort in Iraq "unwinnable."

Mr. Speaker, our troops in uniform do not wear their political registrations on their sleeves. They are Americans representing all over America. I would caution those even as I embrace the right to dissent. I would caution those who choose to blame America first even in the wake of the challenges we see now with the abuses that are being found out and the people are going to be punished and punished and brought to justice from our side.

I would caution those who would paint with a broad brush every member of our military. I would caution those who would attempt now for political reasons to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. It is not becoming this Nation. It does not well serve our men and women in uniform. And even as I defend the right to dissent, I disagree in the strongest possible terms with those who attempt to politicize this conflict and, in essence, place in jeopardy our men and women in uniform.

#### PRIORITIES OF THE HOUSE

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, since April 1 this body has been in session 11 days. In those 11 days of legislative activity, we have named eight post offices and other Federal buildings, authorized the use of the Capitol grounds for the Soap Box Derby, congratulated the University of Connecticut, the University of Denver and Kennesaw State for their sports achievements.

Mr. Speaker, since April 1, 163 soldiers died in Iraq, bringing the total to 767.

Yesterday, the administration announced that it will keep our current troop level through 2005, and that we will need another \$25 billion on top of the \$112 billion already spent.

But while we name post offices and congratulate sports teams, our constituents are asking us the whys and the hows of Iraq. When the chairman of the Committee on Armed Services and the majority leader refuse to hold hearings, they are failing America.

As President Kennedy once said, "An error does not become a mistake until you refuse to correct it. Without debate, without criticism, no administration and no country can succeed, and no republic can survive."

Mr. Speaker, to govern is to choose. We can name post offices, or we can ask the hard questions about the direction of our country, and we might even be able to do both in this House.

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#### WHATEVER IT TAKES

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

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, the book on terrorism has a chapter in it called "Iraq." You cannot close the book on terrorism until you close the chapter on Iraq.

It saddens me that the Democrat leaders have now joined the ranks of the French and Spanish in calling the war in Iraq unwinnable. That is not what our troops told me when I visited them in Iraq. I asked a soldier what did he think about being in Iraq where all the terrorists are congregating from around the Middle East.

He said, this is where we ought to be. He said, this is the only place in the globe where every American carries a gun.

That war is winnable. We must support our troops. We must do like the firemen in New York City said on September 12 when they spoke to the President: do whatever it takes. We must do whatever it takes to win, and we will win.

God bless America.

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#### MISMANAGED WAR

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House