



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2007

No. 26

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
February 12, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAY INSLEE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, 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.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIREs) at 2 p.m.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, Divine Architect of history, the birthday of Abraham Lincoln is a moment to not only hear his voice echoed in countless prayers of people the world over, now is the time for this Nation to touch his spirit, for we are caught up again in the lingering debate of war and peace.

Perhaps, Lord, the wordsmith Carl Sandburg best describes our debility and Lincoln's vision for us when he writes:

"Decreed beyond any but far imagining of its going asunder was Lincoln's mystic dream of the Union of States achieved. Beyond all the hate or corruption or mocking fantasies of democracy that might live as an aftermath of the war were assurances of long-time conditions for healing, for rebuilding, for new growth.

"As a result flowing from the war, the United States was to take its place among nations counted world powers . . . and as a world power, the expectation was it would be a voice of the teachings of Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, and Lincoln speaking for a republican government, for democracy, for institutions 'of the people, by the people, for the people.'

"Though there might come betrayals and false pretenses, the war had put some manner of seal on human rights and dignity in contrast with property rights, and even the very definition of property . . .

"Out of the smoke and stench, out of the music and violet dreams of the war, Lincoln stood perhaps taller than any other of the many great heroes. None threw a longer shadow than he. And to him the great hero was the People. He could not say too often that he was merely their instrument."

Lord God, in our own day, take us beyond the hate and mocking fantasies. Hammer out renewed commitments for healing, for rebuilding and for new growth. Make today's government an instrument of Your people, that we may take our rightful place among the nations as a world power, which is wit-

ness to human rights and dignity for all Your people. 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 Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE 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.

### THE SIGN MUST STAY

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

Mr. POE. "This Is America. When Ordering, Please Speak English." This sign is located in the window of Geno's Restaurant, tourist landmark for the famous Philly cheese steak.

Philadelphia's Commission on Human Relations has been ordering its owner, Joe Vento, to take down the sign, however. They have even suggested that he hire Spanish-speaking employees to help communicate. But Joe is not giving in to the bureaucrats. Vento says that Geno's will serve and his staff will help out customers who don't speak English, but the sign is staying.

Joe Vento is of Italian descent. His grandparents came from Italy. They were proud of their American citizenship and quickly learned English. But

□ 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.



Printed on recycled paper.

H1425