



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 154

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008

No. 23

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 12, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable G.K. BUTTERFIELD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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 debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SESTAK) for 5 minutes.

HONORING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAACP

Mr. SESTAK. Mr. Speaker, for nearly a century, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the NAACP, has been fighting for the civil rights and dignity of people of color. As a result of their efforts, our great Nation today can boast of a society more diverse, productive, prosperous and hopeful than any in history.

However, today's hope is a far cry from the violent segregation and discrimination that inspired Mary White

Ovington, William English Walling and Dr. Henry Moskowitz to meet in a small room of a New York City apartment and commit the fledgling NAACP to the most important social movement in our national history. Today, the spirit of those brave and patriotic founders lives on in its leaders, like Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn, president of the Media, Pennsylvania NAACP chapter in my home district. I rise today to congratulate Dr. Duval-Flynn for her vision, intelligence and dedication. She leads a chapter of the NAACP born of a violent act in the early 1920s and committed to making Delaware County, Pennsylvania, a 21st century community where people of all colors and creeds live together as neighbors, friends and first-class citizens.

In my first year representing the Seventh District of Pennsylvania, the NAACP's magazine, *The Crisis*, featured an article titled "Woman Warriors, Female Combatants Sacrifice Lives for Country." That article gave me cause to consider all of the extraordinary women and men of color I had the privilege of serving with during my 30 years in our Armed Forces. For that privilege and honor, I owe, and our Nation owes, a personal debt of gratitude to Dr. Duval-Flynn, Mary White Ovington and countless other members and leaders of the NAACP.

As W.E.B. Du Bois wrote in his first editorial page of *The Crisis* in 1910, that voice of the NAACP "will stand for the rights of men, irrespective of color or race, for the highest ideals of American democracy, and for the reasonable but earnest and persistent attempt to gain these rights and realize these ideals." No truer words can be spoken than on this birthday of the NAACP. I am proud, therefore, to know and work with this one remarkable leader, Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn, in my district as with many others in my district and with the NAACP who gave us leaders such as she.

Founded on February 12, 1909, the NAACP is the Nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. It has worked successfully with allies of all races who believe in, and stand for, the principles of civil rights on which the organization was founded.

The NAACP's legacy includes historic events as well as distinguished leaders, as I mentioned, W.E.B. Du Bois, but other civil rights leaders such as Rosa Parks and Medgar Evers and Thurgood Marshall, who served as special counsel for the NAACP when he argued the historic U.S. Supreme Court case of *Brown v. Board of Education*, a landmark victory for equality that outlawed segregation in our schools. Our obligation to African Americans and all Americans is to honor the accomplishments of the past by acting in a substantive manner to improve their lives in the future.

Thank you, NAACP; thank you, Dr. Joan Duval-Flynn; and thank you for the time this morning, Mr. Speaker.

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 35 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. RUSH) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

Chaplain William E. Dickens, Jr., 445th Airlift Wing, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, offered the following prayer:

□ 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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Father, we acknowledge that all blessings come from You. I ask that You give the men and women who serve this great Nation from these desks wisdom, courage, and discernment to make decisions that are honoring to You and right for this country.

Presently, there are soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines deployed around the world in harm's way. Father, I pray that You will keep them safe, give them purpose, guard their hearts from loneliness and despair, and bring them home soon. For their families, I pray that You will comfort them and meet all of their needs. For those who have given their lives in defense of freedom, words cannot express our sorrow and our gratitude. May our actions honor their sacrifice, and may Your peace comfort their families.

Father, for this great Nation, I pray that it will continue, under Your blessing, to stand as a beacon for goodness and a bastion of freedom. May we understand the message of Your scripture: "To whom much has been given, much will be expected."

In Your precious name I pray. 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 gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SOLIS 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.

GREEN JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, it's no surprise that our Nation's economy is struggling. The cities in the 32nd Congressional District that I represent have seen unemployment rates soar to 7.2 percent. Gasoline prices continue to go up above \$3.

In Los Angeles, a family loses a home to foreclosure every hour.

However, the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors seem to be booming.

In 2006, the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors generated 8.5 million jobs, nearly \$1 trillion in revenue for the United States. These jobs are good-paying jobs, and they will not be outsourced.

The Green Collar Job Act that was signed into law recently will help train

3 million new workers. Through the program, workers included will be those in underserved communities like mine.

In this time of economic turmoil, we need to invest in America and in our workforce. Let's make sure that Congress appropriates the accorded amount of money so that we can create this stream of jobs that will stay here on our shores.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT BORIS TADIC

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to President Boris Tadic and the people of Serbia on his re-election as President of the Republic of Serbia.

President Boris Tadic has been a strong and vibrant leader for the people of Serbia. He has led his people in their bid to become a member of the European Union because he understands that inclusion in the EU would be a strong step toward growing the Serbian economy and advancing the cause of peace and freedom in the region. The Serbian people have an extraordinary history and culture, and I am hopeful the principles of freedom and democracy embodied by the leadership of President Tadic will continue to thrive.

As a proud member of the Serbian Caucus, I look forward to working with my colleagues and our diplomatic partners in Serbia to forge a growing partnership between our two nations. Congratulations to President Tadic and the people of Serbia for building a robust free market democracy which is crucial for our Balkan nations.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

My deepest sympathies to Annette Lantos, the Lantos family, staff and constituents on the death of Chairman TOM LANTOS. He lived to see Hungary, his birthplace, become a thriving free market democracy.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YARMUTH). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SENIOR BORDER PATROL AGENT LUIS A. AGUILAR

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules

and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 954) honoring the life of senior Border Patrol agent Luis A. Aguilar, who lost his life in the line of duty near Yuma, Arizona, on January 19, 2008, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 954

Whereas Luis Aguilar was born in El Paso, Texas, on November 26, 1976, to Luis Aguilar and Cecilia G. Silva;

Whereas Luis Aguilar resided in Somerton, Arizona, and is survived by his mother and father, his wife, Erica Aguilar, his two children, Luis and Arianna, his brother, senior Border Patrol agent Marco Antonio Aguilar, and his sister, Angie Aguilar;

Whereas Luis Aguilar joined the United States Border Patrol on July 21, 2002;

Whereas on January 19, 2008, after over 5 years of dedicated service in the United States Border Patrol, Luis Aguilar selflessly paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to the United States;

Whereas Border Patrol agents carry out the vital role of protecting our Nation's borders and ensuring the safety of the United States;

Whereas Border Patrol agents work devotedly and selflessly on behalf of the people of the United States, without regard for the peril or danger to themselves; and

Whereas the United States will forever be grateful for the service of Luis Aguilar and mourn his loss: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as United States Border Patrol agents;

(2) honors Luis Aguilar for his service as a Border Patrol agent and for his sacrifice to the United States; and

(3) extends its deepest condolences to the family of Luis Aguilar.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this resolution and include therein any extraneous material.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 954, honoring senior Border Patrol agent Luis A. Aguilar, who lost his life in the line of duty near Yuma, Arizona, on January 19, 2008.

I would also like to thank Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN, a member of the Committee on Homeland Security, for introducing this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, on January 19, 2008, Agent Aguilar was working with fellow