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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

Rev. Chad Eaton, Biltmore Baptist Church, Arden, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Heavenly Father, we ask for Your presence today in this great Chamber. Please bestow upon each Representative today divine wisdom and discernment.

We stand at a difficult time in the history, not only of our great Nation, but of the world. May the decisions made here today not only honor the districts they represent, but first honor You.

Father, it is because of Your great blessing and provision that this Nation has prospered in the past. I pray that this body recognize its need and continued dependence upon You to maintain that blessing.

May these Members seek to be servants today instead of being served, and find favor with You because of their desire to know, honor and serve only God the Father, with humility, character, and courage.

May God once again bless America.

I ask this in the strong name of my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON 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 Ms. Curtis, 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. 3773. An act to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes.

WELCOMING REV. CHAD EATON

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. SHULER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my friend and my brother in Christ, Chad Eaton, for opening the House of Representatives in prayer today.

Chad Eaton is the pastor of Sports Outreach at Biltmore Baptist Church in Asheville, North Carolina.

Chad is married to Kim Eaton, and they have one son, Cole.

Chad has been a great friend to my family and to me, and to the members of our church. I appreciate the dedication he has shown to reaching the youth in our community for Christ.

I ask my colleagues to welcome Chad as he has led us in prayer this morning.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

ARMY CHOOSES TO KEEP CRITICAL REPORT SECRET

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

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, this week we learned that the Army refused

to release a report it commissioned from the RAND Corporation on the mistakes made in the planning and the implementation of the Iraq war.

We all know that mistakes were made. However, it's important that the Bush administration hear from independent voices exactly why the war in Iraq did not go as the administration planned.

The RAND report, uncovered by the New York Times earlier this week, chided both President Bush and then-National Security Adviser, Condoleezza Rice, for not resolving differences between the State Department and the Pentagon. It also highlighted the administration's failure to develop a single national plan that integrated "humanitarian assistance, reconstruction governance, infrastructure development and postwar security."

Madam Speaker, the Bush administration has a lot of lessons to learn but refuses to listen to any independent critiques. I would hope the administration would take this report seriously and would also conclude that the status quo in Iraq cannot continue.

It's time that we bring our troops home.

FIX FISA NOW

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we need a permanent fix to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, and we need it now.

Our enemies will not take a vacation if the Protect America Act is left to expire. Therefore, it is dangerous for American families to let our intelligence-gathering capabilities be limited because of a failure by Congress.

We face an enemy well equipped to exploit the technologies of the 21st century for their evil purposes. Our intelligence community knows what it

□ 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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