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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

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

We confess, Lord God Almighty, that we often accept countless blessings in life and forget to give You thanks. Faithfully surrounded with the support of family and friends, we do not always remember to be grateful. We enjoy food on our tables and cherish freedom, yet we can easily neglect those around this land and other parts of the world who have neither.

Fulfilling our daily duties and responsibilities on Capitol Hill can make such a difference in this world and provide a sense of personal satisfaction because each day grants us great opportunities. Remind us, ever-present God, to be grateful and gracious. Help us to find ways to show our appreciation by sharing our many blessings with others and never forgetting to offer thanksgiving to You each day for every day.

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 pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). Will the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. TSONGAS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TSONGAS 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 10 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REMEMBERING JOHN HENNING

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

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a leader for working men and women, a distinguished diplomat and a great American John Henning, known to us as Jack, who passed away on June 4, 2009. Jack Henning will be long remembered for his distinguished career on the front lines of the labor movement, fighting passionately for justice, equality, human rights and jobs in California, across America and throughout the world.

A native San Franciscan, Jack began his career working for the Association of Catholic Unionists. He joined his first union, the United Federal Workers of the CIO, after graduation from college. Jack served for decades as a dedicated leader of working people, rising to be the president of the California Labor Federation. In that role, Jack represented millions of California's workers with great distinction. Not only union members, but millions of Americans who never belonged to a union enjoy better wages, safer workplaces, greater rights and more secure retirements because of the battles waged by union leaders such as Jack Henning.

Jack was a close ally of legendary farm worker organizers Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta. He cited among his proudest accomplishments the passage in 1975 of the landmark Agricultural Labor Relations Act, which our colleague Mr. HOWARD BERMAN was so much a part of, and provided tough

labor protections for those who have been abused and mistreated for decades in California's pastures of plenty.

Jack Henning ended his farewell speech from the California Labor Federation in 1996 with, And if by a suspension of the laws of nature I were young again, I would follow no other course, no other flag, but the flag of America and the flag of labor. The labor movement was blessed to have him as a leader.

As distinguished as he was on behalf of workers, Jack made many other contributions to his State and this Nation for which we are all grateful. Before taking the presidency of the California Federation of Labor, Jack served Presidents Kennedy and Johnson as Under Secretary of Labor and was appointed by President Johnson as Ambassador to New Zealand in 1967. Jack was also a distinguished regent at the University of California for a dozen years during which he helped lead the fight for expanded opportunities for minority students and demanded that the university divest its investments in apartheid South Africa. That divestment initiative helped bring about the peaceful end of apartheid and the new day of majority rule in South Africa.

We will all miss Jack greatly, but none more than his sons Brian, Daniel, John Jr., Patrick and Thomas; his daughters Mary and Nancy; his 12 grandchildren and his great-grandchildren. We also remember his beloved wife Betty, who preceded him in death. I hope it is a comfort to his family that so many people mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

Jack Henning was a proud American, a devout Catholic, passionate about his Irish roots and a great friend and mentor to many of us. Mr. Speaker, I join Jack Henning's family, friends and workers worldwide to honor his legacy, celebrate his life and remember his illustrious contributions to the State of California and to our great Nation.

☐ 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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