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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 7, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: O God, our Source of life, liberty, and everlasting happiness, our weekend celebration of this Nation's Independence Day was filled with parades; religious services; family events; and a wonderful Capitol concert of music, song, and fireworks on the West Lawn of this Capitol building.

Citizens of this land of promise were inspired to rededicate themselves to Your service and to work for the justice and freedom of all Your people.

Called to be representative of the people, Congress must stand together to solidify the Nation's security and meet fiscal responsibilities of our day.

Give all Your grace, prudence, and perseverance to address the needs of our times.

We make our prayer with gracious humility and deepened faith in the power of Your Holy Name, and Your Kingdom come both now and forever. 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 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.

ADMINISTRATION MISREAD HISTORY

(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, Vice President JOE BIDEN recently admitted that the Obama administration misread the economy when drafting their nearly trillion dollar spending bill. Meanwhile, the American people have long known, and House Republicans have long argued, that this administration actually misread history when putting together their massive borrowing bonanza.

Had Democrats followed the example of former Presidents Kennedy and Reagan, they would have implemented the type of broad tax relief for American families and small businesses that has a proven record of stimulating the economy and creating jobs. Today's continued decline in jobs is a symptom of the slow, bureaucratic-driven spending this administration put in place.

Our economy will recover, but small businesses will be far better vehicles of job creation than big government expansion. By saddling future generations with such massive debt while

threatening Social Security and encouraging the potential for hyperinflation and higher interest rates, this administration has misread history, misplaced its priorities, and misspent American tax dollars.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

TO DIE OR NOT TO DIE—THAT IS THE GOVERNMENT QUESTION

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, British Government medical ethics advisor Baroness Warnock proclaimed that people who suffer from dementia have a patriotic duty to die. She said: "The care dementia requires is very expensive and drains the government resources for health care." This government decision maker said that people will soon be licensed to put other people down if they are unable to look after themselves. If that wasn't bad enough, she went on to say: "If you're demented, you're wasting government resources."

Human beings are a drain on the government; so they need to be put to death? Mr. Speaker, that sounds like a rather sick and demented idea to me.

Government-run medicine like in England puts the government's welfare above the welfare of the people. Government always values itself more than anyone or anything. It's the nature of the beast.

Recently, the President said at a town hall meeting we could save money on health care in America by putting a stop to expensive procedures for people who have been diagnosed with terminal diseases. He said: "Maybe you're better off not having the surgery, just taking the painkiller."

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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