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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 15, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JASON ALTMIRE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Gary Hashley, Calvary Memorial Church, Gering, Nebraska, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, David, the beloved Psalmist and great King of Israel wrote, "Show me Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day."

Father, today I echo King David's thoughts for all Americans, but especially for these, our elected Representatives. Please show us what we need to see, teach us what we need to know, and lead us where we need to go as individuals and as a Nation. I acknowledge publicly that You are God and that all of us who are blessed to live in this great country need to wait on You, and to seek Your face today and every day.

Please, Father, guide the work done in this room and make Your presence known. I ask this in Jesus' name.

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 Louisiana (Mr. FLEMING) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FLEMING 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.

WELCOMING PASTOR GARY HASHLEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of today's guest chaplain, Pastor Gary Hashley. He is joining us from my hometown of Gering, Nebraska, where he serves the congregation at the Calvary Memorial Church. Pastor Hashley's journey began in Michigan, where he graduated both from high school and the Grand Rapids School of the Bible and Music.

Over the years, he has served communities as diverse as Kalamazoo, Michigan, and LaGrange, Wyoming, before settling in Nebraska. It is an honor to be here with him today.

For 30 years, Pastor Hashley's service has had a profound impact on his community. He has led efforts to feed the poor, to spread his faith to those in need, and has even been active with local 4-H councils. I thank Pastor Hashley for his dedication, leadership, and service to our community and for his words of faith this morning.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Americans want quality, affordable health care. Fifty million Americans are uninsured. H.R. 3200 will still leave 17 million Americans uninsured. Now, how is that possible? Because it keeps in place a for-profit insurance system which siphons off at least \$400 billion every year which could be used to make sure all Americans, not just most Americans, receive quality health care.

H.R. 3200 will not solve the problem of underinsurance. Sixty percent of all bankruptcies in America are due to people not being able to pay hospital bills. Of those, 80 percent are insured. People just can't afford the rising premiums, copays, and deductibles which are the basis of insurance company profits.

The only way to break the insurance companies' hold on our system is to guarantee affordable, quality health care to all Americans through a universal single-payer, not-for-profit health care system.

DEMOCRATS SHOULD STOP THE SPIN ON THE ECONOMY

(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, Democrats should stop trying to spend the results of their economic borrowing program. Despite what the

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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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