



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 155

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2009

No. 191

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 16, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TAMMY BALDWIN 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:

During this season of holidays and holy days, Lord, we pray for families all across this Nation. The times, economics, and unemployment are causing great stress within some families. Military service, sickness, recent deaths, and alienation bring other families to the point of heartbreak and tears. Yet we believe, Lord, that the family is not only the basic social unit upon which our communities and our Nation are built. Family life is the "domestic church" where prayer is practiced and faith is first witnessed.

For You, Lord God, the family itself is a great mystery, our first school of formation, which shapes human values,

affirms self-image, and provides a world view. Here one accepts personal independence within a sense of belonging and authority with a sense of humor, bold enough to giggle at life's inconsistencies and laugh at oneself. Daily, children and adults learn self-giving, gratitude, patience, forgiveness, and simple expressions of love and being loved.

Lord, may Congress respect and protect family life in this country. With Your blessing, may every family this season nurture the experience of love: conjugal love, paternal and maternal love, fraternal love, and the love of a community of persons and of generations. May they acknowledge Your Presence in everyone around the table, both now and forever. Amen.

NOTICE

If the 111th Congress, 1st Session, adjourns sine die on or before December 23, 2009, a final issue of the *Congressional Record* for the 111th Congress, 1st Session, will be published on Thursday, December 31, 2009, to permit Members to insert statements.

All material for insertion must be signed by the Member and delivered to the respective offices of the Official Reporters of Debates (Room HT-59 or S-123 of the Capitol), Monday through Friday, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. through Wednesday, December 30. The final issue will be dated Thursday, December 31, 2009, and will be delivered on Monday, January 4, 2010.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

CHARLES E. SCHUMER, *Chairman.*

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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H14983