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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 7, 2012, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2012

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

Reverend Robert Ballecer, S.J., Jesuit Conference, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

God of mercy and of kindness, God of patience and of action, God of energy and forgiveness, we give You thanks for this new day, of what is, and what is to become.

We pray that You help us draw closer to You, that we may bear witness to Your presence among us, and face the day with courage and confidence.

Send Your spirit upon the Members of this assembly. May Your grace descend upon them as they meet the difficult task of working for the common good. May they be blessed with wisdom and compassion, enough to serve their fellow citizens with dignity and humility.

Provide them with the strength to be faithful to their duties and to serve honorably, always remembering the sacred trust they have with their fellow citizens.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BARLETTA 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

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 5 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

FIGHTING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, in the minute or so I'm speaking this morning, two more illegal aliens will be added to America's population. Maybe they'll climb over a fence. Maybe they'll sneak off a boat. Maybe they'll overstay an expired visa. All expect to find a better life here in the United States, but all are breaking the law.

The millions of illegal aliens in this country right now impose a huge burden on America's cities. One of them was my city, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. That's why, as mayor, I was the first in the country to enact a local law cracking down on illegal immigration. Now other municipalities and States have taken up that fight.

Seeing Arizona defend its law this week, I'm reminded how the Federal Government has failed to stop illegal immigration. States like Arizona and cities like Hazleton are forced to act because this administration—and prior administrations—refuse to enforce immigration laws.

On Wednesday, Chief Justice John Roberts said it best:

It seems to me that the Federal Government just doesn't want to know who is here illegally or not.

Well, Mr. Speaker, take it from someone who's been fighting against illegal immigration for 6 years now. Sadly, that sounds just about right.

REMEMBERING OTIS BROCK, III

(Mr. BARROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW. It's with sadness that I rise to honor the life of Otis Brock, III, who passed away Tuesday at the age of 41. Otis's time with us was too brief, but his life serves as a shining example of service to others.

A leader from the beginning, Otis was inspired by the example set by his parents, Otis J. Brock and Annette K. Brock, both prominent educators. After graduating from Sol C. Johnson High School and Savannah State University, Otis rose to become the Savannah-Chatham County Public School System's operations chief.

Otis served in many civic capacities, but the accomplishment he took most pride in was the role of father. Otis and

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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