

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Friday, September 17, 1999

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

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
September 17, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BILL BARRETT to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Let us pray using the words of Katherine Davis:

Let all things now living  
A song of thanksgiving  
To God the creator triumphantly raise,  
Who fashioned and made us,  
Protected and stayed us,  
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.

God's banners are o'er us,  
His light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,

Till shadows have vanquished  
And darkness is banished,  
As forward we travel from light into light. 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 California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ROHRABACHER 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.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, an-

nounced that the Senate agrees to the report of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2490) "An Act making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2587) "An Act making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills and a concurrent resolution of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 299. An act to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health, and for other purposes.

S. 401. An act to provide for business development and trade promotion for Native Americans, and for other purposes.

S. 406. An act to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to make permanent the demonstration program that allows for direct billing of medicare, medicaid, and other third party payors, and to expand the eligibility under such program to other tribes and tribal organizations.

S. 613. An act to encourage Indian economic development, to provide for the disclosure of Indian tribal sovereign immunity in contracts involving Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

S. 614. An act to provide for regulatory reform in order to encourage investment, business, and economic development with respect to activities conducted on Indian lands.

S. Con. Res. 56. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance of "family friendly" programming on television.

The message also announced that Mr. LEAHY is added as a conferee, on the part of the Senate, to the bill (H.R. 2670) "An Act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 99-498, the

Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, reappoints Robert C. Khayat, of Mississippi, to the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for a term beginning October 1, 1999, and ending September 30, 2002.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 93-415, as amended by Public Law 102-586, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, after consultation with the Democratic Leader, announces the appointment of Charles Sims, of Mississippi, to serve as a member of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, vice William Keith Oubre.

### SPECIAL ORDERS

#### TECHNOLOGY AND WEAPONS TRANSFERS TO CHINA AND THE SITUATION IN PANAMA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak on an issue which I have, indeed, spoken about before, but I have some startling new information for the American people.

It is no surprise to anyone that I am deeply concerned about America's relationship with Communist China. In this body, we have votes on the trading status with Communist China, and this administration is operating under policy guidelines that deal with Communist China in a certain way.

In fact, the United States Congress, the House of Representatives, and the Senate have voted for normal trade relations, or what used to be called most-favored-nation status for China, and a majority of Members of this body on my side of the aisle have voted to treat Communist China in terms of our trade relations as we do normal trade relations with other societies; that, of course, with a large number of people on the other side supporting most-favored-nation status, normal trade relations as well.

The Clinton administration has gone beyond this. Perhaps those of us in this House believe that trading relations with another country, even a dictatorship like that on the mainland of China, will in some way help that society evolve into a more peaceful, more benevolent, more democratic situation.

☐ 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.