June 8, 1999

vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

WASHINGTON, DC, June 8, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,

DAVID.

The SPEAKER. I have the honor to transmit herewith a facsimile copy of a Certificate of Election received from the Honorable M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr., Governor, State of Louisiana, indicating that, at the Special Election held on May 29, 1999, the Honorable David Vitter was duly elected Representative in Congress for the First Congressional District, State of Louisiana. With best wishes, I am.

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk.

SWERING IN OF THE HONORABLE DAVID VITTER, OF LOUISIANA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. Will the Representatives-elect and the members of the Louisiana delegation present themselves in the well.

Mr. VITTER appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States; that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter. So help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations. You are now a Member of the United States Congress.

WELCOME TO THE HONORABLE DAVID VITTER

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

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with extreme pleasure that the Louisiana delegation presents to you the newest member of our delegation, the newest Member of the American House of Representatives, Mr. David Vitter.

David is extremely well qualified to join this body. Unlike the Member in the well, who graduated from Harvard on the Bayou in Louisiana, David actually got his education at Harvard University. He is a Rhodes Scholar. He and his lovely wife, Wendy, are the parents of three beautiful children, including a young set of twins. Their three daugh-

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE 11929

ters are here today to celebrate this day with them. Like Chris John in our delegation, they are the parents of twins, and we are real excited to have him and his family join our delegation.

Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Bob Livingston is here, a former member, as you know, and Mr. Jimmy Hayes is here from Louisiana, also to welcome David.

Would you please join me in welcoming again the newest member of the Louisiana delegation and the newest Member of our House of Representatives here in Washington, D.C., Mr. David Vitter.

SERVING LOUISIANA WITH HONOR, HUMILITY, AND AWE

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

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen of the House, distinguished Congressman Tauzin and other members of the Louisiana delegation, I am honored, humbled, awestruck to stand before you today.

My goal in the years ahead is simply this: to become at ease and comfortable with you as I become a respected colleague and friend; to become at ease and comfortable with the way of the House as I become an effective Congressman; but never to become so at ease and comfortable that I lose these feelings of honor, of humility, of awe. And how could I? This is the people's House. You, we, are the people's representatives, a vital part of the most powerful and moral political experiment in human history.

I look forward to always honoring you as the people's representatives and to working constructively with you on the people's business.

In closing, I would like to recognize the forces that have brought me here today: God; family; led by my parents and wife; friends; and, of course, the wonderful people of Louisiana's First Congressional District. They are here today, they are here always, and I thank them from the depths of my heart.

EDUCATION LAND GRANT ACT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 189 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 189

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, by direction of the Committee on Rules, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 150) to amend the Act popularly known as the Recreation and Public Purposes Act to authorize disposal of certain public lands or national for-