The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Issa).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC, September 19, 2001,

I hereby appoint the Honorable Darrell E. Issa to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. Dennis Hastert,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Campbell Gillon, Georgetown Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, before Whom civilizations rise and pass away, we bow before Thee. We are creatures of a day, our lives divinely touched into being; endowed with insight as well as sight, conscience as well as cleverness, spiritual responsiveness as well as physical reflexes. In Thee we exist. Forgive us if in the past, we have denied the “better angels” of our nature, thus denying divine guidance and help.

In the light of the recent act of aggression against this Nation, horror, shock, grief, fear, revenge, and anger struggle within people’s hearts. We sorrow at the loss of life, the families shattered, the injuries sustained, and the horrendous images that rescuers shattered, the injuries sustained, and the wailing and rescued will forever retain. We pray for the strength to deal firmly with evil and fairly with right. For the power to stand for truth, understanding, and righteousness by eternal beacons of justice, may the Representatives of this great Nation 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. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2500. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2500) “An Act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes,” requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. Hollings, Mr. Inouye, Ms. Mikulski, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Kohl, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Reed, Mr. Byrd, Mr. Gregg, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Domenici, Mr. McConnell, Mrs. Hutchison, Mr. Campbell, and Mr. Cochran, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Armey) at 7 o’clock and 1 minute p.m.

MAKING IN ORDER AT ANY TIME CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2506, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

Mr. Dreier, Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order at any time for the Speaker, as though pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, to declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2506) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2002 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes, and that consideration of the bill proceed according to the following order:

The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with.

All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services.

After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Armed Services now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived.

No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those that I have placed at the desk and amendments en bloc described in this request.

Except as specified in this request, each such amendment shall be considered only in the order that I have placed at the desk and may be offered only by a Member designated on the amendment or a designee. Each such amendment shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole, shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment (except that the