The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Pence).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC, September 24, 2001

I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE PENCE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2001, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority leader, the minority leader or the minority whip limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DeFAZIO) for 5 minutes.

AIRLINE SECURITY

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, last Friday night, Congress rushed through a $15 billion airline bailout, and I am not going to revisit all of the problems with that legislation here this morning, with one exception. That legislation failed to allocate one cent toward aviation security. This is the system we get with privatization.

Security at airports needs to be and is a legitimate function of the Federal Government of the United States, a security function, a law enforcement function. We should no longer resist that on some sort of ideological bias or an attempt to buy security on the cheap. The administration has convened a task force on kind of a slow timeline; they are proposing to come forward on October 1.

We know what we need to do. Let us not delay another day. I am amazed that this body rejected my motion last Friday night to begin the federalization process now to begin to put firms like this one in Miami International convicted of violating the law and leave them in charge. We need to take charge and make flying safer.

COMMENTING ON LETTERS FROM CONSTITUENTS AFTER THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Speaker’s recognition. Certainly the people of Indiana are proud to see him in the chair, and we are delighted to be reconvening this Monday morning.

Let me just thank, as chairman of the Travel and Tourism Caucus, my colleagues for working quickly on Friday to bring about some financial stability to the airline industry. And of course today, as I speak, the market, the Dow Jones Industrial Average is up some 350 points, and so we hope we have turned the corner on pessimism; and I know there is still opportunity to review and reflect on what the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DeFAZIO) just spoke of.