

Mr. CLEMENT 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.

INTRODUCTION OF THE REVEREND VINCENT CUMMINGS

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

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege today of introducing to my colleagues my constituent, the Reverend Vincent Cummings, who just gave the prayer.

Reverend Cummings represents the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He currently serves as Associate Pastor for Calvary Baptist Church located in Nashville, Tennessee. He is also a candidate for the Master of Public Administration degree at Tennessee State University Institute of Government.

In addition, Captain Vincent A. Cummings is a chaplain with the 932nd Airlift Wing, United States Air Force Reserve Command.

As our men and women overseas continue to wage war against terrorism in Afghanistan, people like Chaplain Cummings minister to the spiritual needs of our military. His service is invaluable, and I commend him for his dedication to serving our country. Our National Guard and Reserve forces are playing a critical role in protecting our country at home and abroad.

As a retired member of the Tennessee National Guard, I know firsthand how important our chaplains are. They provide guidance in times of confusion, solace in times of distress, and comfort in times of sadness.

I want to welcome him here today and thank him for his guidance. I want to thank our wonderful chaplain, Chaplain Coughlin, who, as our U.S. House of Representatives chaplain, has made us proud and is a true man of God. God bless.

WESTERN SAHARA

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the new king of Morocco, King Mohammed VI, seems intent on renewing conflict in Western Sahara. The King recently visited Moroccan troops stationed in the Occupied Territory of Western Sahara to celebrate the 1975 anniversary of the Moroccan invasion. The King initiated new oil contracts for Western Saharan land with American and French companies. The King of Morocco is acting as if Western Sahara is Moroccan territory.

The 1975 International Court of Justice decision clearly states there are no ties, quote, "of territorial sovereignty between the territory of Western Sahara and the Kingdom of Morocco."

The Sahrawi people love democracy and the American people and have rebuffed attempts by rogue nations to get involved in their conflicts. The provocative acts of King Mohammed VI could plunge North Africa into conflict and instability, a perfect opportunity for the terrorist extremists in Morocco to attack innocent Moroccans, Algerians, and others.

Morocco's continued blocking of the referendum for the Sahrawis makes it quite possible that hostilities could resume. I urge the Moroccan Government to stick to the original agreements arrived at under the United Nations.

WE NEED TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, it has been said that nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome.

Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan compromise on Trade Promotion Authority has not overcome every possible objection. But it is far closer to that goal than many of us thought possible. We have addressed Members' concerns in a bipartisan fashion, working in good faith to create consensus. Now it appears new objections have been raised. These objections are not constructive. They were meant to derail this legislation, not improve it.

We can always find new reasons to maintain the status quo, but it is time to drop extraneous objections and acknowledge the fundamental benefits of trade.

Trade Promotional Authority will allow us to finally make serious progress in the effort to forge new trade agreements that benefit our constituents. Without TPA we can give up any notion of leading the world in opening new markets, promoting worker protection, and setting international technological standards. And by refusing to entrust our negotiators with the authority to move ahead on trade agreements, we are crippling American industries.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to consider this issue on its merits rather than politics. We must set aside our differences and recognize that the compromise embodied in H.R. 3005 will benefit the American people.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WHITFIELD) laid before the House the

following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 13, 2001.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on November 9, 2001 at 4:20 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a certification report concerning China's accession to the WTO in accordance with P.L. 106-286.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

REPORT ON CERTIFICATION OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR ACCESSION OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-146)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the requirements of Public Law 106-286, I hereby transmit the attached report certifying that the terms and conditions for the accession of the People's Republic of China to the World Trade Organization are at least equivalent to those agreed between the United States and the People's Republic of China on November 15, 1999.

GEORGE W. BUSH,
THE WHITE HOUSE, November 9, 2001.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 9, 2001.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit three sealed envelopes received from the White House on November 9, 2001, at 12:05 p.m. and said to contain messages from the President whereby he transmits a copy of a 6-month periodic report concerning the emergency with Iran first declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979; a copy of a notice filed with the *Federal Register* continuing the