

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, December 12, 2001

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Rabbi Peter J. Rubinstein, Central Synagogue, New York, New York, offered the following prayer:

Dear friends, we gather during this festival of Hanukkah when Jews celebrate the blessing of light and rededication and renewal. Long ago, those enemies who would have destroyed us profaned our sacred alters. They wished to rid the world of the fundamental teachings of our faith: that peace is founded upon justice, that all human beings are God's creation deserving of ultimate decency and goodness, and that the loveliness of light will always, in the end, obliterate the suffocating specter of darkness.

So, again, as we battle for the vision of light and peace, we ask You, O God, to bless us today in our gathering. Send healing to the sick, comfort to all who are in pain, and tender love to the sorrowing hearts among us. Deepen our love for our country and our desire to serve it. Let Your blessing rest upon us so that our Nation may forever be to the world an example of justice and compassion. As well, may all that we do be a blessing and in Your service, O God and let us say, Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. McNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY 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.

WELCOME TO RABBI RUBINSTEIN

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to welcome to this Chamber Rabbi Peter J. Rubinstein, senior Rabbi at Manhattan's Central Synagogue.

Built in 1872, Central Synagogue is a national and city landmark that was nearly destroyed by fire in 1998. But thanks to Rabbi Rubinstein and others, the Central Synagogue rose from the ashes not only restored, but improved.

New York would do well to follow its example.

On September 9, along with thousands of New Yorkers, I was pleased to attend a glorious celebration when the synagogue reopened. But the joy was shortlived. Just days later, Central Synagogue was hosting memorial services for World Trade Center victims. In retrospect, the renovations were completed just in time.

The Central Synagogue and Rabbi Rubinstein have been there for New Yorkers in times of joy and sorrow alike, and the synagogue was ready for the most sorrowful day in our city's history.

It gives me great pleasure that a man who has meant so much to so many was able to lead us in prayer today.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Chair's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 355, nays 44, answered "present" 1, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 486]

YEAS—355

Abercrombie	DeMint	Jefferson
Ackerman	Deutsch	Jenkins
Aderholt	Diaz-Balart	John
Akin	Dicks	Johnson (CT)
Andrews	Doggett	Johnson (IL)
Armey	Doolittle	Johnson, E. B.
Baca	Dreier	Johnson, Sam
Bachus	Duncan	Jones (NC)
Baker	Dunn	Jones (OH)
Baldacci	Edwards	Kanjorski
Baldwin	Ehlers	Kaptur
Barcia	Ehrlich	Keller
Barr	Emerson	Kennedy (RI)
Barrett	Engel	Kerns
Bartlett	Eshoo	Kildee
Barton	Evans	Kilpatrick
Bass	Everett	Kind (WI)
Becerra	Farr	King (NY)
Bentsen	Fattah	Kingston
Bereuter	Ferguson	Kirk
Berkley	Flake	Klecicka
Berman	Fletcher	Knollenberg
Berry	Foley	Kolbe
Biggert	Forbes	LaFalce
Bilirakis	Ford	LaHood
Bishop	Frank	Lampson
Blagojevich	Frelinghuysen	Langevin
Blumenauer	Frost	Lantos
Blunt	Galleghy	Largent
Boehler	Ganske	Larson (CT)
Boehner	Gekas	Latham
Bonilla	Gibbons	LaTourette
Bono	Gilchrest	Lee
Boozman	Gillmor	Levin
Boswell	Gilman	Lewis (CA)
Boucher	Goode	Lewis (GA)
Boyd	Goodlatte	Lewis (KY)
Brady (TX)	Gordon	Linder
Brown (FL)	Goss	Lipinski
Brown (SC)	Graham	Lofgren
Bryant	Graves	Lowey
Burr	Green (TX)	Lucas (KY)
Burton	Green (WI)	Lucas (OK)
Callahan	Greenwood	Lynch
Calvert	Grucci	Maloney (CT)
Camp	Hall (OH)	Maloney (NY)
Cannon	Hall (TX)	Manzullo
Capito	Hansen	Markey
Capps	Harman	Mascara
Cardin	Hart	Matheson
Carson (IN)	Hastings (WA)	Matsui
Carson (OK)	Hayes	McCarthy (MO)
Castle	Hayworth	McCarthy (NY)
Chabot	Herger	McCollum
Chambliss	Hill	McCrery
Clayton	Hilleary	McGovern
Clement	Hinojosa	McHugh
Clyburn	Hobson	McInnis
Coble	Hoeffel	McIntyre
Collins	Hoekstra	McKeon
Combest	Holden	McKinney
Condit	Honda	McNulty
Cooksey	Horn	Meehan
Cox	Houghton	Meeks (NY)
Cramer	Hoyer	Menendez
Crenshaw	Hulshof	Mica
Crowley	Hunter	Millender-
Cummings	Hyde	McDonald
Cunningham	Inslee	Miller, Dan
Davis (CA)	Isakson	Miller, Gary
Davis (FL)	Israel	Miller, Jeff
Davis, Jo Ann	Issa	Mink
Davis, Tom	Istook	Moran (VA)
DeGette	Jackson (IL)	Morella
DeLauro	Jackson-Lee	Murtha
DeLay	(TX)	Myrick

□ 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.

Nadler	Rivers	Souder
Napolitano	Rodriguez	Spratt
Neal	Roemer	Stearns
Nethercutt	Rogers (KY)	Stump
Ney	Rogers (MI)	Sununu
Northup	Rohrabacher	Sweeney
Norwood	Ros-Lehtinen	Tanner
Nussle	Ross	Tauscher
Olver	Rothman	Tauzin
Ortiz	Roukema	Taylor (NC)
Osborne	Roybal-Allard	Terry
Ose	Royce	Thomas
Otter	Rush	Thornberry
Owens	Ryan (WI)	Thune
Oxley	Ryun (KS)	Thurman
Pallone	Sanders	Tiahrt
Pascarella	Sandlin	Tiberi
Pastor	Sawyer	Tierney
Paul	Saxton	Toomey
Payne	Schakowsky	Towns
Pelosi	Schiff	Traficant
Pence	Schrock	Turner
Peterson (PA)	Scott	Udall (CO)
Petri	Sensenbrenner	Upton
Phelps	Serrano	Velázquez
Pickering	Shadegg	Vitter
Pitts	Shaw	Walden
Platts	Shays	Walsh
Pombo	Sherman	Wamp
Pomeroy	Sherwood	Watkins (OK)
Portman	Shimkus	Watson (CA)
Price (NC)	Shows	Watt (NC)
Pryce (OH)	Shuster	Watts (OK)
Putnam	Simmons	Waxman
Quinn	Simpson	Weiner
Radanovich	Skeen	Wexler
Rahall	Skelton	Whitfield
Rangel	Smith (MI)	Wilson
Regula	Smith (NJ)	Wolf
Rehberg	Smith (TX)	Woolsey
Reyes	Smith (WA)	Wu
Reynolds	Snyder	Wynn
Riley	Solis	Young (FL)

NAYS—44

Allen	Hastings (FL)	Ramstad
Baird	Hefley	Sanchez
Bonior	Hilliard	Schaffer
Borski	Holt	Stenholm
Brady (PA)	Hooley	Strickland
Brown (OH)	Kelly	Stupak
Capuano	Kennedy (MN)	Taylor (MS)
Costello	Kucinich	Thompson (CA)
Crane	Larsen (WA)	Thompson (CA)
DeFazio	LoBiondo	Thompson (MS)
English	McDermott	Udall (NM)
Etheridge	Moore	Visclosky
Filner	Moran (KS)	Waters
Gutierrez	Oberstar	Weller
Gutknecht	Peterson (MN)	Wicker

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Tancredo

NOT VOTING—33

Ballenger	Dingell	Meek (FL)
Buyer	Dooley	Miller, George
Cantor	Doyle	Mollohan
Clay	Fossella	Obey
Conyers	Gephardt	Sabo
Coyne	Gonzalez	Sessions
Cubin	Granger	Slaughter
Culberson	Hinchev	Stark
Davis (IL)	Hostettler	Weldon (FL)
Deal	Leach	Weldon (PA)
Delahunt	Luther	Young (AK)

□ 1026

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ARMEY ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

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

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, at the end of this Congress, I will have served 18

years in the United States House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the good people of the 26th Congressional District of Texas who nine times elected me to represent them in this body. How very privileged I am to have been given that trust, that responsibility and the opportunity to serve the values I share with these good people: faith, freedom, safety, security and peace, in that order.

Mr. Speaker, I have come to love this place. This is the most marvelous democratic institution in the history of the world. It is true what we say about this wonderful House Chamber. Here the people govern; we, the House of Representatives. It is more than a place. It is we the people, working each in our own way to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity.

In my time here we have managed to secure many blessings of liberty. We have been the instruments of the American people during a special period when America led the world in a freedom revolution. As a lesson in how freedom works, we whipped stagflation and set a course of economic prosperity and growth unparalleled in the history of the world.

America halted the march of communism in our hemisphere. We inspired the demise of its tyranny in Eastern Europe. The Cold War ended on our terms. The Soviet Union collapsed. The Berlin Wall fell. We won the Gulf War, and as we speak, we are removing the scourge of terrorism from the globe.

□ 1030

Peace through strength and supply-side economics changed this world for the better. Because the American people champion liberty, more people in the world live free today than at any time in the world's history. Yet there is more to be done, and it is America who will lead the way.

Mr. Speaker, that marvelous creativity known as practical American genius led us through the agricultural revolution and the industrial revolution. It now leads us through the electronic revolution. Once again we see new marvels, deriving from the American creativity and hard work. Today, we see a renewal of faith in God that lifts the hearts of everyone in America. There is a renewal of patriotism that vindicates the faith of our fathers and the sacrifices of our heroes.

America is a good Nation, where blessings endure and difficulties pass. The American people deserve a government that knows their goodness and has the decency to respect it. It is up to us to be that government, and I have complete confidence that we will continue to be just that.

Because of this confidence, I am comfortable telling you today that the end of this 107th Congress is the time for

me to stand down as majority leader and as a Member of Congress; to take my leave of this place and the people I love so much, and to return home to my beloved 26th district of Texas and, more importantly, to my beloved wife and family.

Mr. Speaker, I am sad to say what we all know is true. Too often our service to our Nation is a disservice to our family. To our spouses, our years of service seem to be an unbroken string of broken promises and disappointments. Our husbands and wives are too often excluded from what we do. They live a life of hardship that is rarely supposed and even less understood. It is as if they are single parents.

You all know what I mean. We all have our own heartbreaking chapter and verse. Bless our hearts, and, even more, bless our spouses' hearts.

But, Mr. Speaker, here is the good news. Throughout all the difficulties that only we who serve here can understand, I have kept the love of a good woman. And, Mr. Speaker, I have kept my love for her just as it was on the day we were wed. Just as she has always been, my darling wife Susan is here with me today from our home in Texas.

Honey, I want to thank you for all your years of sacrifice. And, honey, you get to keep this house. We are not moving again.

Mr. Speaker, let me just mention our children, Kathy and Brandon, David and Lori, Chip and Christine, Scott and Carisa, and Scott and Pam. They have given us our beautiful grandchildren, Avery, Christian, Christopher, and Jacob. I very much look forward to making up for lost time with them, just as with my wonderful mother-in-law, Alyne, our beautiful sister Betsy and her darling little Ryan.

Mr. Speaker, while this is a sad announcement for me, I am consoled by the fact that I have one more year, one more year in the leadership of this body. I am looking forward to that being the best year ever. We are just completing an outstanding legislative year, and we will do even more next year. I do not intend to miss a minute of it.

Mr. Speaker, my first lesson in politics was "good policy makes good politics." I believe that. And I believe this majority makes good policy. That is why, Mr. Speaker, the American people elected us to this majority and that is why I know they will do it again in the next Congress, and I do not have a doubt about it. I can complete my work next year knowing the House will remain in good hands.

And, Mr. Speaker, may I say in that regard to you personally, to you personally, Mr. Speaker, thank you for answering your Nation's call to duty. Mr. Speaker, you are, in my life's experience, more than anybody else I have ever known, the right man to step up