

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, March 21, 2001

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
March 21, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVEN C. LATOURETTE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

### PRAYER

Rabbi Hillel Cohn, Congregation Emanu El, San Bernardino, California, offered the following prayer:

Thousands of years ago, in setting down the fundamental requirements for any community, the Torah charged: "Tsedek, tzedek tirdof":

"Justice, justice shall you pursue."

Appreciating the importance of justice, the Founders of this Nation envisioned an America that would guarantee "liberty and justice for all."

O God, strengthen the resolve of those who serve here to make the decisions as well as the processes leading to those decisions genuinely just. Let America pursue justice in our enforcement of laws, in our forms of punishment, in our methods of choosing our leaders, in our allocation of precious resources, in our expectations of other nations, and in our daily relations with one another.

Praised be the Eternal God, the Sovereign, who loves justice and expects us to pursue justice, uncompromising and true justice. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

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

Mr. WAMP. 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 pro tempore. 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The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.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 pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LEWIS of California 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.

### WELCOMING RABBI HILLEL COHN

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

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to introduce to my colleagues an old friend, Hillel Cohn, who is about to retire as rabbi of Congregation Emanu El in San Bernardino, California. Not too long ago, in a community meeting, Rabbi Cohn approached me and said, "Jerry, I understand we're going to have a wedding." Thereby he was announcing to me that, not too long after that, he was marrying two of my now young children, not so young children.

Hillel is a UCLA graduate. He got his Ph.D. at the divinity school at Claremont College. He came to San Bernardino to lead this congregation in 1963. Our community has been blessed by his service. He has been involved in virtually every organization of any moment to San Bernardino, California, as well as the surrounding communities. His leadership indeed has had a huge impact, ranging from our commission that involves human affairs that attempts to provide balance and strength within our community. He has been a leader within the religious community, obviously, but most importantly he has used his extra time, that volunteer time, to touch every aspect of our life. His service upon his retirement will only increase, I am assured.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is my privilege to introduce to you my friend, Rabbi Hillel Cohn.

### ON THE ECONOMY AND TAX CUTS

(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, over the last 6 months, we have seen some major changes in our economy. We lost 94,000 manufacturing jobs just in February. Overall economic growth slowed to just 1.1 percent in the fourth quarter of last year. In the quarter before that, the growth was 5.6 percent. I do not need to remind anyone how far down the stock market has gone. Clearly, we need to take action. Some in this body are claiming that even by talking about the slowdown in the economy, we are pushing the country into recession. But we need to have a sensible discussion about what needs to be done to breathe new life into the American economy. This is too important to make it political.

Yesterday's cut in interest rates will help, but we need tax cuts as well. Only by getting more money into the hands of the people who spend can we get our economy going again. Let us pass the President's tax relief package. In fact, let us even make it bigger and retroactive. And let us do it now.

### FUNDING NEEDED FOR NEW MARKET INITIATIVES

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, last year we spent a great deal of time, energy and effort developing a new markets venture capital program with enthusiastic support from President Clinton and Speaker HASTERT. When I look at the current President's budget for 2002, it provides no money at all for these initiatives to spur economic growth and development in disadvantaged inner city and rural communities.

Today, we are going to hear a great deal about faith as a way of dealing with the needs, hopes and aspirations of the disadvantaged. I say that faith without money is shallow. Let us keep the faith and fund these new market initiatives for inner city and rural disadvantaged communities.

### UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI PRESIDENT EDWARD THADDEUS FOOTE, II

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House

☐ 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.