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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, D.C.,

I hereby appoint the Honorable E. CLAY SHAW, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Roger D. Willmore, First Baptist Church, Weaver, Alabama, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, we enter into Your presence with praise and adoration and thanksgiving in our hearts for who You are. We acknowledge You as our creator and sustainer. We are dependent upon You in every area of life.

Today I am asking that You would impart wisdom and guidance to the officers and Members of this body. May their decisions today and every day be in Your will. May they find in You the spiritual resources for all that is required of them.

Father, I pray for our President and Vice President and all Members of Congress as they work together to lead our country in a manner that would be pleasing to You.

Lord, I thank You for our great country. I thank You for every blessing You have bestowed upon us. I ask You to forgive us where we have failed You and enable us to live in a manner that would be pleasing to You.

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us, to Him be the glory in the Church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

In Jesus’ name I pray. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. RILEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. RILEY 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.

DR. ROGER D. WILLMORE

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

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome Dr. Roger Willmore from Calhoun County, Alabama, to our Nation’s Capitol to perform a sacred and time-honored tradition. Congress begins each day with a prayer, and to have a fellow Alabamian deliver it this morning makes everyone back home very proud, especially the members of the First Baptist Church in Weaver, Alabama.

He has been pastor there since 1995. He is a graduate of Samford University in Birmingham and Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama.

Dr. Willmore also holds masters and doctorate degrees from Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville, Florida.

Since becoming a Southern Baptist pastor in 1971, Dr. Willmore has served both at home and abroad, performing missionary work in South America and Africa. He has taught at Kiev Christian University in the Ukraine. Dr. Willmore is married to Sandra Carroll of Arab, Alabama; and together they are the proud parents of one son, Steven Andrew.

In his prayer, Dr. Willmore asked God to give Congress wisdom and guidance so it can lead our Nation to a bright and blessed future. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of us to work together today and every day so that the hopes and aspirations in that prayer will become a reality.

APPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO ATTEND FUNERAL OF THE LATE HONORABLE NORMAN SISISKY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 107, the Chair announces the Speaker’s appointment of the following Members of the House to the Committee to attend the funeral of the late Norman Sisisky:

Mr. WOLF of Virginia;
Mr. GEPHARDT of Missouri;
Mr. BOUCHER of Virginia;
Mr. SCOTT of Virginia;
Mr. GOODE of Virginia;
Mr. CANTOR of Virginia;
Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia;
Mr. SCHROCK of Virginia;
Mr. SKELETON of Missouri.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

STOP THE TIDE OF SUBSIDIZED CANADIAN LUMBER FROM FLOODING SOUTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, this weekend is notable in that Sunday is April Fool’s Day, and the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia in particular, is about to play a very sick April Fool’s joke on the American people and particularly those in rural communities in the western United States.

On Saturday night at midnight, the U.S.-Canadian Softwood Lumber Agreement expires, and nothing has been put in its place to stop a tide of subsidized Canadian lumber from flooding south beginning on April Fool’s Day.

Since the administration of Ronald Reagan, Presidents have recognized and strongly fought against the unfair competition of the wholly subsidized Canadian lumber and sawmill industry. This administration must act strongly to perpetuate those controls and protections against unfair competition.

Mr. Speaker, in Canada the Crown owns 95 percent of the timber; and in Canada the Crown gives away that precious resource. They have a bizarre bidding process. Well, it is not a bidding process; they just contract with companies, no bidding process, and then they say we will look at the logs on the first truck you bring out and we will grade them and set a price. So the companies go in and find the rattiest trees and bring out a truckload of ratty trees, and the government scalers look at them and say we are going to charge you $10 for that truckload. Then the lumbermen go back in and gather up precious old growth and other priceless...