

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Tuesday, June 6, 2006

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCHUGH).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 6, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN M. MCHUGH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:
Lord God, You alone are holy and almighty.

As the noble creatures of Your own making, all of us try to avoid any form of humiliation. Probably because of our deep sense of unconscious mortality, the sheer force of a powerful enemy or unbridled nature can diminish us with fear. The brash awakening of public embarrassment or the subtle put-down by a peer can humble anyone in a moment's notice.

From personal experience, we also know how You, O Lord, can breathe on our conscience or artfully collapse the falsehoods which uphold us. Then overwhelmed by the truth of ourselves, we stand humbly before You.

This afternoon, we as intelligent and responsible persons come before You and prayerfully bow our heads in humble submission to Your powerful presence. To seek Your blessing or to ask for Your pardon of our sins is simply to humble ourselves sincerely before You.

Guide us individually, as a government and as a nation, both now and forever. 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 Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GINGREY 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.

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, May 26, 2006.

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, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 26, 2006, at 4:00 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3829.

That the Senate passed without amendment H. Con. Res. 418.

That the Senate passed S. 3322.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

IN RECOGNITION OF EUSEBIO PENALVER MAZORRA

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Eusebio Penalver Mazorra, who was one of the longest serving political prisoners and a man who President George W. Bush called a Cuban patriot. I would like to recognize his widow, Francis Martinez, who is with us today.

In Miami, Penalver led a group called "Plantados until Freedom and Democracy Comes to Cuba," whose five founding members each spent more than 20 years in Castro's prisons. Eusebio himself spent 28 years in jail.

Penalver was a Cuban political prisoner who fought long and hard against Castro's tyranny. Born in Ciego de Avila, in Camaguey, Cuba, Penalver was a Plantado, a prisoner who firmly plants his feet in his cell and does not cooperate with his captors, and he struggled for freedom and democracy throughout his life.

He came to the United States as an exile in 1988, and he dedicated his life

to fighting Castro's tyranny. He was loved and admired by our Cuban-American community for his dedication and courage in the fight for Cuba's liberty, and his presence will be sorely missed.

CONCERNS ABOUT LEVEL OF FUNDING OF AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my grave concerns about the level of funding for ADAP, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, which is inadequate to support the more than 136,000 Americans currently dependent on ADAP for their life-saving HIV/AIDS medication, plus the 10,000 more who are likely to be added next year.

The 6-year historical ADAP underfunding is evident in the growing waiting lists, unacceptable eligibility rules and insufficient medication.

Current initiatives emphasize testing, which, I agree, is critical to addressing this epidemic. However, as a doctor, I am troubled by the ethics of testing Americans for HIV when we are not guaranteeing them access to treatment.

I am also disturbed that this underfunding will primarily impact low-income, uninsured Americans who are disproportionately from communities of color. And as a Member of Congress, I am ashamed that we are not doing all that we could and should to take care of the needs of all Americans with HIV disease.

I call on my colleagues to support full funding for Ryan White, including the \$986.5 million level as identified by the National ADAP Working Group. Only by fully funding ADAP will we step up to our public health responsibility to treat all HIV positive Americans.

HONORING VETERANS ON THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

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

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, there are no greater patriots than our veterans and those who proudly wear the uniform today.

On this day, 62 years ago, 3,393 brave, young American men lost their life

☐ 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.

storming the beaches of Normandy in defense of freedom. We must never forget their sacrifice.

I rise today, June 6, to say thank you to the greatest generation.

Today, our generation is faced with a similar choice, sit on the sidelines or defend freedom. And like World War II, our Nation has once again chosen to answer the call. America will always be freedom's defender.

D-day was a turning point for Allied Forces in the European Theater, and 3 years after America joined the global war, victory seemed attainable.

I am honored to represent over 100 D-day survivors, and I plan to call some of them today and let them know how grateful I am for their service. I encourage all Americans to reach out to a veteran today and thank them for their service and sacrifice.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CUTS TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON NEED RETHINKING

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, everyone knows that on September 11, 2001, nearly 3,000 New Yorkers were killed in the attack on the World Trade Center and, of course, several hundred as well here in Washington at the Pentagon. Yet the Department of Homeland Security has chosen to cut both New York and Washington by 40 percent of Homeland security funds for this year. It is absolutely mind-boggling and unbelievable and outrageous that New York and Washington would face these cuts. New York's money is scheduled to go down from \$207.6 million in 2005 to \$124.5 million in 2006.

Now, to add insult to injury, we hear that the Department of Homeland Security is cutting New York's bioterrorism money 15 percent as well, so that in New York, per capita New York would receive \$2.99 per resident to fight bioterrorism, while the good people of Wyoming would receive \$9.72 cents per person to fight bioterrorism, and the good people of North Dakota would receive \$8.09 per person to fight terrorism.

We all know the threat in North Dakota and Wyoming is not nearly as great as New York. What is Secretary Chertoff thinking? What are they thinking over there? Their policies and their thoughts need to change.

CONGRATULATING UPSON-LEE MIDDLE SCHOOL IN THOMASTON, GEORGIA

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Upson-Lee Mid-

dle School in Thomaston, Georgia, on being recognized as a "School to Watch" by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform.

This award recognizes Upson-Lee's academic excellence, especially the school's commitment to challenging every student's mind. Upson-Lee was one of only 82 schools nationwide to receive this honor.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Upson-Thomaston Superintendent Howard Hendley, Upson-Lee Principal Patsy Dean and all the Upson-Lee teachers, administrators and parents for the dedicated work on behalf of Georgia's children.

As a former school board chairman, I know the importance of a good middle school education. Our children learn more when they are inspired by the leadership of teachers and principals, and Upson-Lee is doing a great job inspiring the youth of Thomaston.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating Upson-Lee Middle School on this exciting recognition.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 26, 2006.

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, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 26, 2006, at 9:45 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1953.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5401.

That the Senate passed S. 633.

That the Senate passed S. 2784.

That the Senate passed S. 2856.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER TO PUBLIC INTEREST DECLASSIFICATION BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 703(c) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 435 note), and the order of the House of December 18, 2005, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following member on the part of the House to the Public Interest Declassification Board for a term of 3 years:

Admiral William O. Studeman, Great Falls, Virginia.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP DOING RIGHT THING ON IMMIGRATION

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

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, we have all just returned from being in our districts talking with our constituents about the issues that are important to them.

One thing that I have heard over and over in my district, Mr. Speaker, is border security. This is an issue that my constituents and Americans care about. This is an issue where they want to see some action. It is the problem that most of them want to see us address, and they will not accept any sort of amnesty for those who have chosen to enter this country by breaking the law.

We need to secure the border. We need to get a hold on illegal entry into this country. That is the number one priority. And I thank the House leadership for doing the right thing on this issue. Chairman SENSENBRENNER has passed a good, solid bill that addresses the problem. The Senate has not. The American people know it.

We look forward to continuing this debate and encouraging all to join in securing the border as our first step toward controlling illegal entry into this great Nation.

□ 1415

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the further consideration of H.R. 5441, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 836 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5441.

□ 1415

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5441) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes, with Mr.