HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

''Love justice, rulers of the earth, set your mind upon the Lord, as is your duty. Seek the Lord with simplicity of heart. He is found by those who trust Him without question, and makes Himself known to those who never doubt Him.''

Lord, how boldly You speak, in the opening words of the Book of Wisdom. And You speak directly to those chosen to rule, govern and legislate for Your people.

Everything begins with a love of justice. If each day, each undertaking, each Member, each committee meeting and each debate would be focused on a true pervasive love of justice, neither time nor money would be wasted. Energy would run high and Your people would be animated with a transforming spirit that would shape this Nation and change the world.

Help Congress, Lord, to set all else aside as secondary and first, love justice, now and forever. 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCHENRY 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4311. An act to amend section 105(b)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to ten 1-minutes on each side.

LONE STAR VOICE: ALEXANDRA GARY

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, this week, the first National Guard troops hit our Nation's border. They are not carrying the same guns and ammunition as the Mexican military on the other side, but they are driving bulldozers and road equipment. They are starting a project that people all across the country support, fortifying our border, helping to prevent the invasion of the drug smugglers and human traffickers that blatantly infiltrate our Nation.

Americans want to see our Nation strengthened. Mr. Speaker, Alexandra Gary from Riverwood Middle School in Kingwood, Texas, writes to me, ''I think we should stop trying to help people from Mexico come into America illegally. I think we should have a stronger border control. It is unfair to let so many people come to America illegally. It is almost like they are stealing. They sneak into our country and escape from paying taxes. They take people's jobs. The few people that we catch and return to Mexico just keep coming back. If we strengthen our borders, then no more can come in. All America needs is ideas and justice.''

Mr. Speaker, those simple but strong ideas of justice come from a 12-year-old, someone who has more stake in the future of our nation than anyone on the floor right now. And as a legal citizen, no matter her age, she, unlike illegals, has the right to speak her mind. Alexandra understands we are being invaded. Now it is our government's turn to understand this simple but wise truth. And that's just the way it is.

CRITICIZING THE HATE-FILLED WORDS OF ANN COULTER

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, as United States citizens, we are blessed with many freedoms. Among those is the right to freely speak our minds. While freedom of speech is one of the things that makes our country great, it also means we have to endure the words of a hatemonger like Ann Coulter.

In her new book, the goddess of the right slanders the 9/11 widows, writing, ''These broads are millionaires, lionized on TV and in articles about them, reveling in their status as celebrities and stalked by grief-arazzies. I have never seen people enjoying their husbands' death so much.''

Lest Ms. Coulter forget, more than 3,000 Americans were killed simply because they lived in the United States. That doesn't matter to Ms. Coulter, because she is doing it to enrich herself.

But there is something more sinister in Ms. Coulter's words. The hate she spews is the same kind of hatred we are battling in the war on terror. As a country of thought and reason, I urge all of us to reject it.

I must ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, does Ann Coulter speak for you when she suggests poisoning Supreme Court Justices or slanders the 9/11 widows? If not, speak now. Your silence allows her to be your spokesman.

She should apologize to all of us who have lost our fellow citizens on 9/11.

U.S. AIRSTRIKE KILLS LEADING ENEMY OF FREEDOM IN IRAQ

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rejoice in the death of no man, but today I will make an exception. As America and the world just learned, the al Qaeda leader in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi is dead. The President of the United States said it was an opportunity to turn the tide and that the ideology of terror had lost one of its most visible and aggressive leaders, and it has.

But this was not simply a tactically significant strike by U.S. and Iraqi forces. Somebody dropped a dime. It is also evidence, as U.S. General George Casey in Iraq said earlier today, of increased cooperation.

I commend U.S. and Iraqi forces for this extraordinary accomplishment. The leading enemy of freedom in Iraq is dead. Abu Musab al-Zarqawi is gone. Let freedom reign in Iraq.

MAKE MEMBER VOTING RECORDS AVAILABLE TO CONSTITUENTS

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

Ms. BEAN. Mr. Speaker, last month this Chamber passed without my support the Lobbying Accountability and