

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Monday, March 31, 2008

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. JONES of Ohio).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 31, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: God ever faithful to Your promises, You invite us as a Nation to place our trust in You. Be present to all the Members of the House of Representatives as they gather for the spring session of the 110th Congress of the United States of America.

Spring blossoms, baseball, fair weather, and many more young visitors are signs of new life in the Nation's Capital. They bring surprising goodness and renewed energy; and we are grateful. May the work of this Congress protect and guide this Nation as it grows in stability, in integrity, and greatness.

Lord, we truly believe that by Your Word, You can breathe forth promise, and that the barren wood can bear fruit that will last 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 her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. BISHOP of Utah 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 agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 70. Concurrent Resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States government for fiscal year 2009 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 and 2010 through 2013.

GEORGIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Georgia School for the Deaf's football team on winning the 2007 National Eight-Man Deaf Prep Football Championship. It's located in the heart of Cave Spring, Georgia, Floyd County, in my 11th District. The school has now won three national football titles since it was established in 1846, almost 160 years ago. This year's team finished the season with an outstanding 7 and 1 record, and they defeated schools from six other States.

Madam Speaker, the Tigers exhibited dedication, teamwork, and perseverance all season long, and it certainly paid off. I want to congratulate their Athletic Director and Head Football Coach, Erik Whitworth; his Assistant Coaches, Sidney Sharp, David Conti, Eugene Neal, B.B. Chubb, and Shawn Self, as well as the entire Tiger football team on a great season. Four of the team members, Patrick Bryant, Andy Sugg, Timothy Simmons, and Andrew Henderson were all selected as members of the All American Deaf Football Team.

Madam Speaker, all of these athletes have brought much pride to Georgia, to the School for the Deaf, and the entire State, and I ask you to join me in celebrating their accomplishment.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

GULF OF THE FARALLONES AND CORDELL BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES BOUNDARY MODIFICATION AND PROTECTION ACT

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1187) to expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1187

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) *The Gulf of the Farallones extends approximately 100 miles along the coast of Marin and Sonoma counties of northern California. It includes approximately one-half of California's nesting seabirds, rich benthic marine life on hard-rock substrate, prolific fisheries, and substantial concentrations of resident and seasonally migratory marine mammals.*

(2) *Cordell Bank is adjacent to the Gulf of the Farallones and is a submerged island with spectacular, unique, and nationally significant marine environments.*

(3) *These marine environments have national and international significance, exceed the biological productivity of tropical rain forests, and support high levels of biological diversity.*

(4) *These biological communities are easily susceptible to damage from human activities, and must be properly conserved for themselves and to protect the economic viability of their contribution to national and regional economies.*

(5) *The Gulf of Farallones and Cordell Bank include some of the Nation's richest fishing grounds, supporting important commercial and recreational fisheries. These fisheries are regulated by State and Federal fishery agencies and are supported and fostered through protection of the waters and habitats of Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary.*

(6) *The report of the Commission on Ocean Policy established by Public Law 106-256 calls for comprehensive protection for the most productive ocean environments and recommends that they be managed as ecosystems.*

(7) *New scientific discoveries by the National Marine Sanctuary Program support comprehensive protection for these marine environments by broadening the geographic scope of the existing Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary.*

□ 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.