end of the subsection and inserting ''total of 36,400,000 acres during the 1986 through 2002 calendar years (including contracts extended by the Secretary pursuant to section 1437(c) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–624; 16 U.S.C. 3831 note).''.

(c) OPTIONAL CONTRACT TERMINATION BY PRODUCERS.—Section 1235 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3835) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) TERMINATION BY OWNER OR OPERATOR.—

''(1) EARLY TERMINATION AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall allow an owner or operator of land that, on the date of the enactment of the Agricultural Market Transition Act, is covered by a contract that was entered into under this subchapter at least five years before that date to terminate the contract with respect to all or a portion of the covered land. The owner or operator shall provide the Secretary with reasonable notice of the termination request.

''(2) CERTAIN LANDS EXCEPTED.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the following lands shall not be subject to an early termination of a contract under this subsection:

''(A) Filterstrips, waterways, strips adjacent to riparian areas, windbreaks, and shelterbelts.

''(B) Land with an erodibility index of more than 15.

''(C) Other lands of high environmental value, as determined by the Secretary.

''(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The contract termination shall take effect 60 days after the date on which the owner or operator submits the notice under paragraph (1).

''(4) PRORATED RENTAL PAYMENT.—If a contract entered into under this subchapter is terminated under this subsection before the end of the fiscal year for which a rental payment is due, the Secretary shall provide a prorated rental payment covering the portion of the fiscal year during which the contract was in effect.

''(5) RENEWED ENROLLMENT.—The termination of a contract entered into under this subchapter shall not affect the ability of the owner or operator who requested the termination to submit a subsequent bid to enroll the land that was subject to the contract into the conservation reserve.

''(6) CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS.—If land that was subject to a contract is returned to production of an agricultural commodity, the conservation requirements under subtitles B and C shall apply to the use of the land to the extent that the requirements are similar to those requirements imposed on other similar lands in the area, except that the requirements may not be more onerous that the requirements imposed on other lands.''.

(d) USE OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS.—Section 1231 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) USE OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS FROM CONTRACT TERMINATIONS.—If a contract entered into under this section is terminated, voluntarily or otherwise, before the expiration date specified in the contract, the Secretary may use funds, already available to the Secretary to cover payments under the contract, but unexpended as a result of the contract termination, to enroll other eligible lands in the conservation reserve established under this subchapter.''.

(e) FAIR MARKET VALUE RENTAL RATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1234(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) In the case of a contract covering land which has not been previously enrolled in the conservation reserve, annual rental payments under the contract may not exceed the average fair market rental rate for comparable lands in the county in which the lands are located. This paragraph shall not apply to the extension of an existing contract.''.

(2) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENT.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to contracts for the enrollment of lands in the conservation reserve program under section 1231 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831)) entered into after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) ENROLLMENTS IN 1997.—Section 725 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104–37; 109 Stat. 332), is amended by striking the proviso relating to enrollment of new acres in 1997.

□ 2200

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Chairman, I want to inform Members that the House will go into session tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock in order to expedite consideration of the farm bill, and to accommodate Members there will be no 1-minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) having assumed the chair, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2854) to modify the operation of certain agricultural programs, had come to no resolution thereon.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning.

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

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT PROCESS DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 994, SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the Rules Committee is planning to meet on Thursday, February 29 to grant a rule for H.R. 994, the Small Business Growth and Administrative Accountability Act, which the House is likely to consider during the week of March 4. The Rules Committee is contemplating an open rule for this legislation.

The Rules Committee may grant a rule which would make in order an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Government Reform and Oversight Chairman CLINGER and Judiciary Chairman HYDE as original text for purposes of amendment.

The substitute amendment is expected to broaden the scope of the legislation. The Clinger-Hyde amendment will be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Thursday, February 29, and copies of the amendment will be available in the majority offices of the Government Reform and Oversight Committee and the Judiciary Committee.

Members should draft their amendments to this substitute.

The Rules Committee is also contemplating a rule which would provide priority in recognition to those Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to being offered.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are properly drafted and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

MAKING IN ORDER SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2854, AGRICULTURAL MARKET TRANSITION ACT

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent during further consideration of H.R. 2854, pursuant to House Resolution 366, that I be permitted to offer the amendment at the desk in lieu of amendment number 15 printed in House Report 104–463.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will read the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

At the end of title V, page 139, after line 17, add the following section: Sense of the Congress regarding purchase of American-made equipment and products requirement regarding notice. Any purchase of American-made equipment and products in the case of any equipment or products that may be authorized to be purchased with financial assistance provided under this act or amendments made by this act, it is the sense of Congress that persons receiving such assistance should in expending the assistance purchase only American-made equipment and products.

B, the notice to recipients of assistance in providing financial assistance under this act or amendments made by this act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide to each recipient of the assistance a notice describing the statement made in subsection A by the Congress.

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

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 1561, AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS ACT OF 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1561) to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1996 and 1997; to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal years 1996 and