and antiterrorism bill. Subject to the approval of the Rules Committee, this rule may include a provision limiting amendments to those specified in the rule.

Any Member who desires to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies and a brief explanation of the amendment by noon on Thursday, March 7, to the Rules Committee, at room H–312 in the Capitol.

Members who filed amendments last December to H.R. 1710, the Comprehensive Antiterrorism Act, do not have to file those same amendments again. Those amendments were already drafted to the text of H.R. 2703. 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.

PERMISSION FOR SUNDRY COMMITTEES AND THEIR SUBCOMMITTEES TO SIT TODAY DURING THE 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following committees and their subcommittees be permitted to sit today while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule. Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Commerce, Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Committee on International Relations, Committee on National Security, Committee on Resources, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

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

There was no objection.

IN SUPPORT OF ANTITERRORIST LEGISLATION

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

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the heinous terrorist bombings in Israel that have claimed the lives of more than 50 Israelis, Americans, and others, and injured more than 150 have shocked all Americans. They must be stopped.

Today I plan to introduce legislation calling upon Yasir Arafat, and the Palestinian leadership to crack down decisively against the terrorists and those who support them.

My resolution also calls for a review of United States assistance to the Palestinians, and calls upon President Clinton to consider making available to Israel appropriate antiterrorist and intelligence resources.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support his measure.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, our Committee on International Relations will hold a hearing on Tuesday, March 12, into these vicious attacks, and on compliance of the PLO with the commitments it has made to the peace process.

SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon the Republican leadership is brining up the Small Business Relief and Regulatory Accountability Act. This is nothing more than the Contract With America repackaged.

It is an effort to bog down Federal agencies, particularly those involved with the environment such as the EPA, so that they cannot get the job done. From the beginning of this session last year, the Republicans made a point that they were going to push through regulatory reform. But this regulatory reform is nothing more than but an effort to burden departments and agencies that protect our public health and safety with duplicative and unnecessary paperwork and bureaucracy.

It is a shame that the Republican leadership is going to try again to raise this issue and do what is necessary, what they think they can do to break down environmental protection and make it impossible for the EPA and other agencies that protect our environment and protect our public health from doing their job. But we will have to fight it again today and make the point that this is not the way that Congress should be run.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 994, SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, working Americans have suffered under the proregulation, protax policies of the Clinton administration. In 1993, Bill Clinton enacted the largest tax increase in history. Since then, average working Americans have had to deal with higher taxes on one hand, and stagnant wages on the other.

Under President Reagan family income increased, the economy grew, and economic confidence soared. Today, the Clinton administration is overjoyed if growth is over 2 percent in a year. That's simply not getting the job done. We need faster economic growth and the way we do that is by easing the burden of Government. We need to cut taxes for families and cut repetitive and burdensome regulation on small business.

Mr. Speaker, later today we will vote on H.R. 994. This bill will help create a cheaper and more effective regulatory system and let small businesses do what they do so well—create jobs and grow the American economy.

EDUCATION CUTS

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I visited a local school in my district and met with parents and educators, the people we entrust with the lives of our children, with the future of our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, these dedicated people are afraid that the devastating education cuts passed by my Republican colleagues spell disaster for our schools and for our children.

The temporary spending bill which expires in a week includes deep cuts in basic skills training and in Federal violence prevention funds to keep our schools safe. In my State of Connecticut, these cuts alone amount to a $9 million loss in aid to education.

At a time when Americans are anxious about their job security and in an age the income you earn is tied to the skills you have learned, education is the last place we should cut.

This week, we are scheduled to take up an extension of the spending bill through the end of the fiscal year. I urge my Republican colleagues to do more than pay lipservice to the anxiety in the American workplace. Retreat from your extreme agenda. Restore the funds you took from our classrooms, and give our students the tools they need.

PASS H.R. 994

(Mrs. CUBIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, later today we will take up H.R. 994, the Small Business Growth and Administrative Accountability Act. H.R. 994 will improve the Federal regulatory system and is the first step toward ending the Clinton crunch.

For too long small businesses have been subjected to a flood of regulation and compliance costs. It is estimated that for the smallest of businesses—those with only one to four employees—the regulatory costs per employee are over $30,000. It is no wonder that so many people today feel that the entrepreneurial spirit is being choked by Washington taxes, Washington regulation, and Washington interference.

Today we have the chance to do something about this problem. Today we can send a message to small business owners and those who dream one day of owning their own business. Let's pass H.R. 994 and fix the burdensome regulatory system and let small businesses do what they do best: create jobs.

SUPREME COURT RULING

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court ruled it is OK for the government to seize the car of an innocent wife, innocent because her husband had sex in the car with a prostitute. Watch out Hertz and Avis here.

Mr. Speaker, has the Supreme Court lost their marbles? This ruling is tantamount to allowing the government to seize your home, your car, your boat, your BVD's, your rubber duckies, even if you had been victimized by the action and you are innocent and did nothing wrong. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker.

Whatever happened to government of the people, by the people, and for the people? Now the Supreme Court says, it is government from the people. Beam me up again here. It is not the President evidently who smoked dope; it is the membership of the Supreme Court who voted for this, and it is absolutely evident they inhaled all the way through.

Congress, do something. The Supreme Court should not set the law in America. That is the legislative role.

AN ARGUMENT FOR EDUCATION REFORM

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I am a former schoolteacher. I taught the seventh and eighth grades in an inner city school in Cincinnati. There is perhaps no greater argument for education reform than the school system right here in Washington, DC. The numbers and the statistics are shocking.

The District spends 76 percent more per pupil than any other jurisdiction in the Nation. Yet its students rank last in eighth-grade math proficiency, last in fourth-grade math proficiency, and last in fourth-grade reading proficiency.

Washington, DC teachers are among the best paid teachers in the entire country, and they have a very favorable student-teacher ratio. But even with these advantages, the District ranks 49th in on-time graduations. Despite these shortcomings, the liberal special interests continue to block any meaningful reform of Washington schools, including school choice.

Let us improve educational opportunities and the lives of the children here in Washington and across the Nation. Even more importantly, let us pass the Back to Basics Education Act, which takes the power and the money away from the bureaucrats here in Washington and gives it back to parents and teachers and local school boards where it ought to be.

GOP RECORD ON EDUCATION

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

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, in the 103d Congress, the Congress that preceded this, I had the honor of serving on a committee then known as the Committee on Education and Labor. We were known collectively in the 103d Congress as the education Congress. We had done school to work transition, goals 2000, reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Now in this Congress, the 104th, the GOP piecemeal governing strategy is threatening to wreak havoc on our educational system and on the local school districts. The constant uncertainty about Federal funding has meant nothing short of chaos for school districts across this Nation who are awaiting final word on the future funding levels for elementary and secondary education programs.

This uncertainty, coupled with the likelihood of sharply reduced funding, has made it difficult for schools to plan for next year. The result could be fewer teachers, larger classes, and a decline in the quality of education, and that is not what Americans want for their children.

The GOP record this year so far has been the largest education cuts in the history of this Nation. If congressional Republicans decide to extend their current short-term budget for the remainder of the year, the result would be the largest setback in education in the history of this country. These cuts would include basic reading, math skills, drug and safe schools, and vocational education. We cannot afford this.

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THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS

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

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, over the last year the American people watched the actions of this body very closely. And they learned many things. One thing learned is how very differently the two parties think about the great issues that face them.

They see that Republicans fight for tax cuts and a smaller government. They also see that liberal Democrats fight for more government and higher taxes.

During the budget negotiations, the American people saw for themselves very clearly that liberals, including the President, will go to bat for government programs, but not for the average taxpayer and worker.

Mr. Speaker, the American people's desire for government reform has not subsided. That is something that is not going away overnight. Big government advocates are on the wrong side of history. America's future depends on less government and less taxation. And that is something that is obvious to all Americans.

MOST AMERICANS FAVOR RESTORATION OF FUNDS FOR EDUCATION

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

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, the Republican majority is out of step with the bedrock concerns of the American public when it comes to education funding. A recent Gallup poll shows two-thirds of the Americans rank quality of education as their top priority over such issues as crime, health care, and the deficit. A January Wall Street poll shows 9 out of 10 Americans favor increased spending in education. A January Post poll shows 8 of 10 Americans oppose cutting education.

Despite these dramatic and overwhelming numbers, the current continuing resolution cuts $1.5 billion nationwide and $64 million in Michigan, my home State, for title I, vocational education, drug free schools and other programs. If we extend the continuing resolution to year's end, more than a million young people will be deprived of services in the title I program alone. Our budget process has been turned upside-down this year.

Let us get back to common sense. Our real contract with the American people demands that we restore funding to education, protect our children, and invest in America's future.

ENDING THE CLINTON CRUNCH

(Mr. METCALF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, Americans are feeling the pinch of the Clinton crunch. Their taxes go up, but their real wages decline, and not only are families feeling the pinch, but small businesses are being ground down by overtaxation and overregulation. This is sad because, if you look at the record, small businesses account for more than 70 percent of the jobs in America.

According to a recent survey, nearly half the small businesses surveyed said that overregulation had a substantial adverse effect on profit making. Small businesses today are faced with a barrage of Federal regulations and a sea of redtape. Sometimes these rules are contradictory or they are just too complex to understand.

Mr. Speaker, American small business people deserve a break from senseless overregulation. Today Congress should apply the brakes to overregulation and take a huge step toward ending the Clinton crunch.

A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION FOR OUR CHILDREN

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