

Amendments to be preprinted should be signed by the Member and submitted at the Speaker's table.

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. It is not necessary to submit amendments which comply with the rules to the Committee on Rules or to testify.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inquire of the majority leader or his designee about the schedule for next week for the House of Representatives.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROEMER. I am delighted to yield to the majority leader.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

I am pleased to announce we have concluded legislative business for the week.

The House will next meet on Monday, March 23rd, at 2 p.m. for a pro forma session. There will be no legislation considered and no votes on that day.

On Tuesday, March 24, the House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2:00 p.m. for legislative business. Members should note we do not expect any recorded votes before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

We will consider the following bills under suspension of the rules on Tuesday:

H.R. 2843, the Aviation Medical Assistance Act of 1997; H.R. 3039, the Veterans Transitional Housing Opportunities Act of 1997; H.R. 3211, a Bill Regarding Eligibility Requirements for Burial in Arlington National Cemetery; H.R. 3213, a Bill to Clarify Enforcement of Veterans' Employment Rights; H.R. 3412, the Small Business Investment Company Technical Corrections Act of 1998; and H.R. 118, the Traffic Stops Statistics Act of 1997.

The House will also take up a bill on the Corrections Day Calendar, H.R. 3096, a Bill Relating to Termination of Benefits for Convicted Persons.

On Wednesday, March 25, and the balance of the week, the House will meet at 10 a.m. to consider the following legislation:

H.R. 2578, a Bill to Extend the Visa Waiver Pilot Program; H.R. 2589, the Copyright Term Extension Act; H.R. 3310, the Small Business Paperwork Reduction Act Amendments of 1998; H.R. 2515, a Bill to Address the Declining Health of Forests; H.R. 3246, the Fairness for Small Business and Employees Act of 1998; and H.R. 3485, The Campaign Reform and Election Integrity Act of 1998.

We also hope to bring up H.R. 1757, the State Department Reauthorization Bill, conference report.

Mr. Speaker, we hope to conclude legislative business for the week by 2 p.m. on Friday, March 27.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to discuss the schedule for the last week of March. As the schedule we distributed at the beginning of the year indicates, the House will meet on Monday, March 30th, through Wednesday April 1. We have a number of very important pieces of legislation for the week, including the supplemental appropriations bill and the BESTEA bill. Members should note it will be necessary to begin legislative business and votes at noon on Monday, March 30.

On Wednesday, April 1, we will adjourn for the spring district work period, from which the House will return on Tuesday, April 21st.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority leader and would just inquire further of him for some clarification on the schedule.

Does the gentleman expect us to be in late on Tuesday night, since we begin votes at 5 with six bills and one correction?

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman will continue to yield, he is referring to Tuesday of next week?

Mr. ROEMER. That is correct.

Mr. ARMEY. No, I do not expect to be in late. We will probably take those votes at 5, and that will probably be the business for the evening.

Mr. ROEMER. Does the gentleman from Texas expect any late votes next week?

Mr. ARMEY. It is possible that Wednesday and Thursday could be late evenings.

Mr. ROEMER. If the gentleman would continue to elucidate on the schedule, does he expect campaign finance reform to come to the floor next week or any time soon?

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentleman for asking. Yes, as I noted, I expect it to be on the floor sometime next week.

Mr. ROEMER. Can the gentleman be more specific as to a day?

Mr. ARMEY. I would expect Wednesday or Thursday.

Mr. ROEMER. Wednesday or Thursday.

And would the majority leader tell the House as well about the State Department conference bill coming to the floor; when he expects that bill to come to the floor and what the vote tally might be?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, I thank the gentleman for asking. We expect that bill to be on the floor sometime next week, and as soon as we have more definitive information, we will let the Members know.

Mr. ROEMER. If the majority leader knows the answer to this question, on H.R. 3246, the bill dealing with the National Labor Relations Board, does he expect that bill to be coming before the House next week?

Mr. ARMEY. Once again, I thank the gentleman for asking, and we would ex-

pect that bill on Thursday of next week.

Mr. ROEMER. Thursday next week.

Mr. Speaker, with that I do not have any further questions of the majority leader, other than to say that I think a lot of us have been seeing a lot of our families for the past couple of months, and we hope to continue to do that into the year. Does the majority leader expect us to have late nights with the appropriations bills coming up soon?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, I thank the gentleman for his questions, and I do hope Members have had time to be with their families.

Mr. ROEMER. The gentleman sounds like that time is over.

Mr. ARMEY. Well, I think the week following next will be a rigorous and demanding week. It is a short week of only 3 days, and we will then have an opportunity to spend some time in our districts working and visiting with our families and celebrating Easter.

We will then, as we come back, move fairly quickly into the appropriation season. And as the gentleman knows, appropriation season can be a season of the year when we do have more than a fair share of late evenings. And, of course, that is always regrettable, but the work must be done.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority leader, and I want to say to him that I will continue to work with him and his office on these scheduling issues.

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ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1998

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today it adjourns to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kansas?

There was no objection.

HOOR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1998

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, March 23, 1998, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, for morning-hour debates.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1998—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 105-231)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit for your immediate consideration and enactment the "National and Community Service Amendments Act of 1998." This legislative proposal extends and amends national service law, including the National and Community Service Act of 1990 and the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973. It builds upon the long, bipartisan tradition of service in our country, which was renewed in 1993 when I signed the National and Community Service Trust Act creating the Corporation for National Service.

Service to one's community is an integral part of what it means to be an American. The Presidents' Summit for America's Future held in Philadelphia last April reinforced the role of programs supported by the Corporation for National Service as key vehicles to provide young people with the resources to maximize their potential and give back to their communities. Citizens service is also at the heart of our efforts to prepare America for the 21st century, as we work to ensure that all Americans have the opportunity to make the most of their own lives and to help those in need.

My Administration's most important contribution to citizen service is AmeriCorps, the national service program that already has given more than 100,000 young Americans the opportunity to serve their country. By tying opportunity to responsibility, we have given them the chance to serve and, in return, earn money for post-secondary education. In community after community, AmeriCorps members have proven that service can help us meet our most pressing social needs. For example, in Simpson County, Kentucky, AmeriCorps members helped second graders jump three grade levels in reading. In Boys and Girls Clubs, AmeriCorps members are mentors for at-risk young people. Habitat For Humanity relies upon AmeriCorps members to recruit more volunteers and build more houses. In communities beset by floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes, AmeriCorps members have helped to rebuild lives and restore hope. AmeriCorps members are helping to mobilize thousands of college students from more than 800 college campuses in our America Reads program. In all of these efforts, AmeriCorps brings together people of every background to work toward common goals.

Independent evaluators have reviewed AmeriCorps, National Senior Service Corps programs, and Learn and Serve America programs and have concluded that national service yields a positive return on investment. The proposed legislation that I am transmitting builds on our experiences with national service to date and improves national service programs in four ways: (1) by codifying agreements with the Congress and others to reduce costs and streamline national service; (2) strengthening partnerships with traditional volunteer organizations; (3) increasing States' flexibility to administer national service programs; and (4) expanding opportunities for Americans to serve.

Since the enactment of the National and Community Service Trust Act in 1993, and particularly since 1995, my Administration has worked with constructive critics of national service to address their concerns and improve the overall program. This proposed legislation continues that process by reducing the Corporation's average budgeted cost per AmeriCorps member, repealing authority for redundant or obsolete national service programs, and making other improvements in the efficiency of national service programs.

National service has never been a substitute for the contributions made by the millions of Americans who volunteer their time to worthy causes every year. Rather, as leaders of volunteer organizations have often expressed, national service has proven that the presence of full-time, trained service participants enhances tremendously the effectiveness of volunteers. This proposed legislation will strengthen the partnership between the national service programs and traditional volunteer organizations; codify the National Service Scholarship program honoring exemplary service by high school students; and expand the AmeriCorps Challenge Scholarships, through which national service participants can access education awards. It also will authorize appropriations for the Points of Light Foundation through the year 2002.

The National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 explicitly conceived of national service as a Federal-State partnership. The Act vested significant authority in bipartisan State Commissions appointed by the Governors. I promised that we would accelerate the process of devolution as the newly created State Commissions expanded their capacities. This proposed legislation fulfills that promise in a variety of ways, including providing authority for the Corporation for National Service to enter into Service Collaboration Agreements with Governors to provide a means for coordinating the planning and administration of national service programs in a State.

This proposed legislation will also provide additional service opportunities. By reducing the cost per

AmeriCorps member, it will enable more people to serve; it will broaden the age and income guidelines for National Senior Service Corps participants, expanding the pool of older Americans who can perform results-oriented service in their communities; and it will simplify the administration of Learn and Serve America, so States and communities will more easily be able to provide opportunities for students to learn through service in their schools and neighborhoods.

This past January, I had the opportunity to honor the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by engaging in service on the holiday commemorating his birth. I joined 65 AmeriCorps members and more than 300 community volunteers in repairing and repainting Cardozo High School in the Shaw neighborhood of Washington, DC. Thirty-one years ago, Dr. King came to that very neighborhood and urged the people there to engage in citizen service to rebuild their lives, their community, and their future. That is what those national service participants, and the thousands more who were participating in similar projects across the country, were doing—honoring the legacy of Dr. King and answering the high calling of citizenship in this country.

Each of the more than 500,000 participants in the programs of the National Senior Service Corps and the 750,000 participants in programs supported by Learn and Serve America, and every AmeriCorps member answers that high calling of citizenship when they make and fulfill a commitment to service in their communities. This proposed legislation builds on the successes of these programs and improves them for the future.

I urge the Congress to give this proposed legislation prompt and favorable consideration.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 19, 1998.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.)

IMPORTANCE OF DOMESTIC OIL PRODUCTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an issue awfully important to Kansans and the