

the Speaker and Minority Leader to accept resignations and to make appointments authorized by law or by the House, the Speaker on Thursday, January 9, 1997, appointed to the Joint Economic Committee, Mr. SAXTON.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate of the foregoing appointment.

¶3.5 RECESS—10:05 A.M.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. DREIER, pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, declared the House in recess at 10 o'clock and 5 minutes a.m., until 10:15 a.m.

¶3.6 AFTER RECESS—10:15 A.M.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. DREIER, called the House to order.

¶3.7 INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. DREIER, made the following announcement:

"The Chair desires to announce that sitting Members have been delivered their official tickets and will be seated on the platform. There are no extra seats available, so former Members cannot join the procession. The same holds true for children. They can neither go with the procession nor be seated on the platform.

"The area where Members of the House are to be seated is not covered. Members should keep this fact in mind in deciding whether to wear overcoats and hats.

"The procession will be headed by the Sergeant at Arms bearing the Mace. The Clerk will escort the Members to the West Front of the Capitol. The procession will be lead by the Dean of the House, followed by the House leadership, committee chairmen, ranking minority Members, and other Members in order of seniority.

"The Chair would encourage Members, as they gather in order of seniority, to congregate by 'classes' in the well.

"Pursuant to House Resolution 8, the Members of the House will now proceed to the West Front to attend the inaugural ceremonies for the President and Vice President of the United States.

"Upon completion of the ceremony, and pursuant to the provisions of House Resolution 8, the House will stand adjourned until noon tomorrow."

Thereupon, at 10 o'clock and 20 minutes a.m., the Members of the House, preceded by the Sergeant at Arms and the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. DREIER, proceeded to the West Front of the Capitol.

And then,

¶3.8 ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to House Resolution 8, at 12 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m., the House adjourned until 12 o'clock noon, Tuesday, January 21, 1997.

¶3.9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Pursuant to House Resolution 5 the following report was filed on January 17, 1997]

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut: Select Committee on Ethics. In the Matter of Representative Newt Gingrich (Rept. No. 105-1). Referred to the House Calendar.

¶3.10 PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. ENSIGN:

H.R. 449. A bill to provide for the orderly disposal of certain Federal lands in Clark County, NV, and to provide for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands in the State of Nevada; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. CRANE, Mr. RIGGS, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. PICKETT, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. DEAL of Georgia):

H.R. 450. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify the method of payment of taxes on distilled spirits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself and Mr. SCARBOROUGH):

H.R. 451. A bill to provide for a special Medicare part B enrollment period and a special medigap open enrollment period for certain military retirees and dependents; to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

¶3.11 ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 14: Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. GOSS, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, and Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma.

H.R. 68: Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Ms. RIVERS, and Mr. WALSH.

H.R. 69: Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, Mr. FROST, Mr. POSHARD, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. TRAFICANT.

H.R. 113: Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. MINGE, Mr. BARCIA of Michigan, and Ms. FURSE.

H.R. 123: Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. KLUG, Mr. KIM, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HOSTETTLER, and Mr. PORTMAN.

H.R. 130: Mr. PACKARD.

H.R. 131: Mr. PACKARD, Mr. GOSS, and Mr. HOSTETTLER.

H.R. 218: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. GILLMOR, and Mr. STUMP.

H.R. 367: Mr. SAXTON and Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1997 (4)

¶4.1 DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The House was called to order by the SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BEREUTER, who laid before the House the following communication:

January 21, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable DOUG BEREUTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

¶4.2 APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BEREUTER, announced he had examined and approved the Journal of the proceedings of Monday, January 20, 1997.

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

¶4.3 COMMUNICATIONS

Executive and other communications, pursuant to clause 2, rule XXIV, were referred as follows:

1209. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Regulations Issued Under the Export Apple and Pear Act; Relaxation of Grade Requirements for Apples and Pears Shipped to Pacific Ports of Russia [Docket No. FV96-33-1FIR] received January 10, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1210. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Hazelnuts Grown in Oregon and Washington; Establishment of Interim and Final Free and Restricted Percentages for the 1996-97 Marketing Year [Docket No. FV96-982-2IFR] received January 10, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1211. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Onions Grown in South Texas; Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV96-959-1IFR] received January 10, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1212. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Cranberries Grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Long Island in the State of New York; Change in Reporting Requirements [Docket No. FV96-929-2FR] received January 10, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1213. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Milk in the Iowa Marketing Area; Temporary Revision of Pool Supply Plant Shipping Percentage [DA-96-16] received January 10, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1214. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Olives Grown in California and Imported Olives; Establishment of Minimum Quality Requirements for California and Imported Olives, and Revision of Outgoing Inspection Requirements and Procedures for California Olives [Docket No. FV96-932-2FR] received January 13, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1215. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Revision of the Saleable Quantity and Allotment Percentage for Class 3 (Native) Spearmint Oil for the 1996-97 Marketing Year [Docket No. FV96-985-3FR] received January 13, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1216. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Peanuts Marketed in the United States; Changes in Handling and Disposition Requirements [Docket Nos. FV96-997-1FR; FV96-998-4FR; FV96-999-3FR] received January 13, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1217. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Cotton Research and Promotion Program: Determination of Sign-up Eligibility, and Procedure for the Conduct of a Sign-up Period for Determination of Whether to Conduct a Referendum Regarding the 1990 Amendments to the Cotton Research and Promotion Act [CN-96-008] received January 14, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1218. A communication from the President of the United States transmitting his request to make available appropriations totaling \$5 million in budget authority for the Department of Health and Human Services' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and designate the amount made available as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1107 (H. Doc. No. 105-26); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

1219. A letter from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), Department of Defense, transmitting a report on a violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act—Army violation, case number 97-02, which totaled \$27,122, occurred in the fiscal year 1995 operation and maintenance, Army [O&M, A] appropriation at the Yakima Training Center, Yakima, WA, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

1220. A letter from the Chair, Defense Environmental Response Task Force, transmitting the report on the actions of the Defense Environmental Response Task Force for fiscal year 1996, pursuant to Public Law 101-510, section 2923(c)(1) (104 Stat. 1821); to the Committee on National Security.

1221. A letter from the Assistant Secretary (Installations and Environment), Department of the Navy, transmitting notification of the Department's decision to study certain functions performed by military and civilian personnel in the Department of the Navy [DON] for possible performance by private contractors, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2304 note; to the Committee on National Security.

1222. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting notification that the Secretary has approved the retirement of Adm. William J. Flanagan, Jr., U.S. Navy, and certification that Admiral Flanagan has served satisfactorily on active duty in his current grade; to the Committee on National Security.

1223. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a report involving United States exports to the Czech Republic, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635(b)(3)(i); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1224. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, transmitting the Administration's "Major" final rule—Occupational Exposure to Methylene Chloride (RIN: 1218-AA98) received January 10, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1225. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting a copy of the annual report on the Coke Oven Emission Control Program for fiscal year 1995, pursuant to Public Law 101-549, section 301 (104 Stat. 2559); to the Committee on Commerce.

1226. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's 1996 annual report to Congress on the Federal Facilities Compliance Act mixed waste activities, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6965; to the Committee on Commerce.

1227. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State,

transmitting the Department's report on nuclear nonproliferation in South Asia for the period April 1, 1996, through September 30, 1996, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 237; to the Committee on International Relations.

1228. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of Presidential Determination No. 97-14: Drawdown from DOD Articles and Services for Assistance for Victims of Conflict and Other Persons at Risk from Northern Iraq, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2601(c)(3); to the Committee on International Relations.

1229. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of Presidential Determination No. 97-12: Drawdown of Commodities and Services from the Inventory and Resources of the Department of Defense to Support a Peace Monitoring Force in Northern Iraq, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2348a; to the Committee on International Relations.

1230. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of Presidential Determination No. 97-9: Drawdown of Articles, Services, and Military Education and Training from DOD to Provide Anti-Narcotics Assistance to Mexico, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2348a; to the Committee on International Relations.

1231. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report on developments since his last report on July 22, 1996, concerning the national emergency with respect to Libya that was declared in Executive Order No. 12543 of January 7, 1986, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c). (H. Doc. No. 105-25); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

1232. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification that effective December 23, 1996, the danger pay rate for Peru was designated at the 15 percent level, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5928; to the Committee on International Relations.

1233. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification that effective December 26, 1996, the danger pay rate for Chechnya was designated at the 20 percent level, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5928; to the Committee on International Relations.

1234. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification that effective December 26, 1996, the danger pay rate for the Central African Republic was designated at the 20 percent level, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5928; to the Committee on International Relations.

1235. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-337, "Highway Trust Fund Establishment Act and the Water and Sewer Authority Amendment Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1236. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-338, "Business Corporation Two-Year Report Amendment Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1237. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-339, "Fire Code Amendment Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1238. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia,

transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-342, "International Registration Plan Agreement Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1239. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-347, "Health Services Planning Program Re-establishment Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1240. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-349, "Oak Hill Youth Center Educational Contracting Temporary Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1241. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-358, "Extension of the Moratorium on Retail Service Station Conversions and the Gas Station Advisory Board Amendment Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1242. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-354, "Board of Real Property Assessments and Appeals Membership Qualification Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1243. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-355, "Holy Comforter-Saint Cyprian Roman Catholic Church Equitable Real Property Tax Relief Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1244. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-359, "Housing Finance Agency Loan Forgiveness Amendment Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1245. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-360, "Fiscal Year 1997 Budget Support Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1246. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-363, "Modification Reduction-in-Force Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1247. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-361, "Adjustment Process for Nonviolent Juvenile Offenders and Parent Participation in Court-Ordered Proceedings Act of 1996" received January 13, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1248. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-415, "Real Property Tax Rates for Tax year 1997 Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1249. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-413, "Oyster Elementary School Modernization and Development Project Temporary Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1250. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-434, "District of Columbia Moratorium on the 1997 Real Property Assessments for Real Property Tax Year 1998 Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1251. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-433, "BNA Washington Inc., Real Property Tax Deferral Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1252. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-432, "New Hires Police Officers, Fire Fighters, and Teachers Pension Modification Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1253. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-431, "Zero Tolerance for Guns Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1254. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-392, "Reorganization Plan No. 5 for the Department of Human Services and Department of Corrections Temporary Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1255. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-391, "Drug Paraphernalia Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1256. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-389, "Health and Hospitals Public Benefit Corporation Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1257. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-387, "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 375, S.O. 95-54, Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1258. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-386, "Cable Television Franchise Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1259. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-364, "Boating While Intoxicated Temporary Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1260. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-370, "Closing of Public Alleys and Abandonment and Establishment of Easements in Square 878, S.O. 95-38, Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1261. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-384, "Preservation of Residential Neighborhoods Against Nuisances Temporary Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1262. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-380, "Real Property Tax Reassessment Temporary Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1263. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-378, "Paternity Acknowledgment and Gas Station Advisory Board Re-establishment Temporary Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1264. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-374, "Public Assistance Fair Hearing Procedures Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1265. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-372, "Testing of District Government Drivers of Commercial Motor Vehicles for Alcohol and Controlled Substances Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1266. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-371, "Lottery Games Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1267. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-367, "Medicare Supplement Insurance Minimum Standards Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1268. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-343, "Council Contract Approval Modification Temporary Amendment Act of 1995 Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1269. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-341, "District of Columbia Employee Viatical Settlement Temporary Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1270. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 11-340, "Alcoholic Beverage Underage Penalties Amendment Act of 1996" received January 16, 1997,

pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1271. A letter from the Chairman Pro Tempore, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting the Council of the District of Columbia's statement on District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority "Resolution, Recommendations and Order Concerning the Lottery Board," dated September 21, 1996, received December 20, 1996, pursuant to section 207(b) of Public Law 104-8; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1272. A letter from the Chairman and CEO, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the annual report of the Farm Credit Administration for calendar year 1996, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 2252(a)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1273. A letter from the Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting the Board's report for fiscal year 1995 listing the number of appeals submitted, the number processed to completion, and the number not completed by the originally announced date, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 7701(i)(2); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1274. A letter from the Chairman, National Mediation Board, transmitting the fiscal year 1996 annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act [FMFIA] of 1982, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1275. A letter from the Independent Counsel, Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 1996, through September 30, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1276. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the agency's annual report on drug and alcohol abuse prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs and services for Federal civilian employees covering fiscal year 1995, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 7363; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1277. A letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting the semiannual report on activities of the inspector general for the period April 1, 1996, through September 30, 1996, and the Secretary's semiannual report for the same period, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1278. A letter from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting the fiscal year 1996 annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act [FMFIA] of 1982, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1279. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1280. A letter from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, U.S. Postal Service, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1281. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting proposed regulations governing electronic filing of reports by political committees, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 438(d); to the Committee on House Oversight.

1282. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration, transmitting notification that due to the discontinued funding for the emergency striped bass research study, the annual report on that study will no longer be transmitted to Congress, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 757(g); to the Committee on Resources.

1283. A letter from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting the Secretary's certification that Italy has terminated large-scale driftnet fishing by its nationals and vessels, pursuant to Public Law 100-220, section 4004(b) (101 Stat. 1478); to the Committee on Resources.

1284. A letter from the Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, transmitting a report on an increase in the projected cost for the safety of dams modifications at Bumping Lake Dam, Yakima project, Washington, pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 509; to the Committee on Resources.

1285. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Visitor Service Authorizations on Alaska National Wildlife Refuges (RIN: 1018-AC02) received January 10, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1286. A letter from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Endangered Status for the Laguna Mountain Skipper and Quino Checkerspot Butterfly (RIN: 1018-AC84) received January 13, 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1287. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, transmitting the Judicial Conference of the United States biennial report to the Congress on the continuing need for all authorized bankruptcy judgeships, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 152(b)(2); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1288. A letter from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to provide for the conversion of existing temporary U.S. district judgeships to permanent status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1289. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, transmitting a report on the aircraft cabin air quality research program, pursuant to Public Law 103-305, section 304(e)(2) (108 Stat. 1592); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1290. A letter from the Director, National Legislative Commission, the American Legion, transmitting the proceedings of the 78th National Convention of the American Legion, held in Salt Lake City, UT on September 3, 4, and 5, 1996, as well as a report on the organization's activities from the year preceding the convention, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 49 (H. Doc. No. 105-27); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed.

1291. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an updated report concerning the emigration laws and policies of Mongolia, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2432(b) (H. Doc. No. 105-24); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

1292. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the Advisory Committee on Judicial Review of Military Administrative Personnel Actions findings and recommendations, pursuant to section 551 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1996; jointly, to the Committees on National Security and the Judiciary.

1293. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting notification that the Department of Health and Human Services is allotting emergency

funds made available under section 2602(e) of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 to North Dakota and South Dakota and the tribes located in those States, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 8623(g); jointly, to the Committees on Commerce and Education and the Workforce.

1294. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting notification of the actions the Secretary has taken regarding security measures at Eldorado International Airport, Bogota, Colombia, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 44907(d)(3); jointly, to the Committees on International Relations and Transportation and Infrastructure.

1295. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Secretary's certification to the Congress regarding the incidental capture of Sea Turtles in commercial shrimping operations (China), pursuant to Public Law 101-162, section 609(b)(2) (103 Stat. 1038); jointly, to the Committees on Resources and Appropriations.

1296. A letter from the Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting a copy of the Board's request for supplemental funding for fiscal year 1997, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. app. 1903(b)(7); jointly, to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Appropriations.

1297. A letter from the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs and Defense, transmitting a report on the implementation of the health resources sharing portion of the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense Health Resources Sharing and Emergency Operations Act for fiscal year 1996, pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 8111(f); jointly, to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and National Security.

1298. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General of the United States, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Environmental Crimes and Enforcement Act of 1997"; jointly, to the Committees on the Judiciary, Agriculture, Commerce, Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure.

¶4.4 MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sundry messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

¶4.5 PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, rose to a question of the privileges of the House and submitted the following resolution (H. Res. 31; Rept. 105-1):

Resolved, That the House adopt the report of the Select Committee on Ethics dated January 17, 1997, In the Matter of Representative Newt Gingrich.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BE-REUTER, ruled that the resolution submitted did present a question of the privileges of the House under rule IX.

Pending consideration of said resolution,

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BE-REUTER, made the following statement:

"Before we proceed, the Chair will have a statement about the decorum expected of the Members.

"The Chair has often reiterated that members should refrain from references in debate to the conduct of other Members where such conduct is not the question actually pending before the House, either by way of a report from the Committee on Standards

of Official Conduct or by way of another question of the privileges of the House.

"This principle is documented on pages 168 and 526 of the House Rules and Manual and reflects the consistent rulings of the Chair in this and in prior Congresses. It derives its force primarily from clause 1 of rule XIV which broadly prohibits engaging in personality in debate. It has been part of the rules of the House since 1789.

"On the other hand, the calling up of a resolution reported by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, or the offering of a resolution as a similar question of the privileges of the House, embarks the House on consideration of a proposition that admits references in debate to a Member's conduct. Disciplinary matters by their very nature involve personalities.

"Still, this exception to the general rule against engaging in personality—admitting references to a Member's conduct when that conduct is the very question under consideration by the House—is closely limited. This point was well stated on July 31, 1979, as follows:

While a wide range of discussion is permitted during debate on a disciplinary resolution, clause 1 of rule XIV still prohibits the use of language which is personally abusive.

"This is recorded in the Deschler-Brown Procedure in the House of Representatives in chapter 12 at section 2.11.

"On the question now pending before the House, the resolution offered by the gentlewoman from Connecticut, Members should confine their remarks in debate to the merits of that precise question. Members should refrain from remarks that constitute personalities with respect to members of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct or the Select Committee on Ethics or with respect to other sitting Members whose conduct is not the subject of the pending report. Finally, Members should exercise care to maintain an atmosphere of mutual respect.

"On January 27, 1909, the House adopted a report that stated the following:

It is the duty of the House to require its Members in speech or debate to preserve that proper restraint which will permit the House to conduct its business in an orderly manner and without unnecessarily and unduly exciting animosity among its Members.

"This is recorded in Cannon's Precedents in volume 8 at section 2497.

"The report adopted on that occasion responded to improper references in debate to the President, but it articulated a principle that occupants of the Chair over many Congresses have held equally applicable to Members' remarks toward each other.

"The Chair asks and expects the cooperation of all Members in maintaining a level of decorum that properly dignifies the proceedings of the House."

By unanimous consent, the time for debate was extended by 30 minutes.

Whereupon,