

tion that would have been paid for the overtime hours worked or overtime hours that would have been worked, plus such other legal or equitable relief as may be appropriate to effectuate the purpose of this section, as well as an additional equal amount as liquidated damages, costs, and, in the case of an action filed under section 16(b), reasonable attorney's fees. Where an employee has used compensatory time off or received monetary compensation for earned compensatory time for such overtime hours worked, the amount of such time used or monetary compensation paid to the employee shall be offset against the employer's liability under this paragraph.

“(12) For the purpose of protecting overtime compensation wages of employees, the Secretary may by regulation require employers who provide compensatory time to their employees under this subsection to secure a payment bond with a surety satisfactory for protection of the overtime compensation of such employees.

“(13) (A) The Secretary may issue regulations as necessary and appropriate to implement this subsection including regulations implementing recordkeeping requirements and prescribing the content of plans and employee notification.

“(B) The Secretary may issue regulations regarding classes of employees, including all employees in particular occupations or industries, to—

“(i) exempt such employees from the provisions of this subsection,

“(ii) limit the number of compensatory hours that such employees may earn to less than the number provided in paragraph (4)(A), or

“(iii) require employers to provide such employees with monetary compensation for earned compensatory time at more frequent intervals than specified in paragraph (4)(C),

where the Secretary has determined that such regulations are necessary or appropriate to protect vulnerable employees, that a pattern of violations of the Act may exist, or that such regulations are necessary or appropriate to assure that employees receive the compensation due them.

“(C) The Secretary shall issue regulations—

“(i) which bar employers with a pattern or practice of violations of this Act from offering compensatory time under this subsection;

“(ii) prescribing the content of plans described in paragraph (2)(A)(ii) and employee notification, including the provision of information regarding who is eligible for compensatory time and under what circumstances it may be earned and used and information regarding the impact, if any, that choosing compensatory time may have on the eligibility, accrual, and receipt of other compensation and benefits; and

“(iii) requiring employers to keep records in accordance with section 11(c) of compensatory time earned and overtime worked.

“(14) When an employee uses earned compensatory time off, the employee shall be paid for the time off at the employee's regular rate at the time the employee performed the overtime work or at the employee's regular rate when the time off is taken, whichever is higher.

“(15) For purposes of this subsection—

“(A) the terms ‘compensatory time’ and ‘compensatory time off’ mean hours during which an employee is not working and for which the employee is compensated at the employee's regular rate in accordance with this subsection;

“(B) the term ‘elderly relative’ means an individual of at least 60 years of age who is related by blood or marriage to the employee, including a parent;

“(C) the term ‘employee’ does not include—

“(i) a part-time, temporary, or seasonal employee;

“(ii) an employee of a public agency;

“(iii) an employee in the garment industry;

“(iv) an employee who is not entitled to take not less than 24 hours of leave during any 12-month period to participate in school activities directly related to the educational advancement of a son or daughter of the employee, accompany such son or daughter to routine medical or dental appointments, and accompany an elderly relative of the employee to routine medical or dental appointments or appointments for other professional services related to such elder's care; or

“(v) an employee exempted by the Secretary under paragraph (13)(B);

“(D) the term ‘overtime compensation’ shall have the meaning given such term by subsection (o)(7);

“(E) the term ‘part-time, temporary, or seasonal employee’ means—

“(i) an employee whose regular workweek for the employer is less than 35 hours per week;

“(ii) an employee who is employed by the employer for a season or other term of less than 12 months or is otherwise treated by the employer as not a permanent employee of the employer; or

“(iii) an employee in the construction industry, in agricultural employment (as defined by section 3(3) of the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act (29 U.S.C. 1802(3)), or in any other industry which the Secretary by regulation has determined is a seasonal industry; and

“(F) the term ‘overtime assignment’ means an assignment of hours for which overtime compensation is required under subsection (a); and

“(G) the term ‘school’ means an elementary or secondary school (as such terms are defined in section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801)), a Head Start program assisted under the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), and a child care facility licensed under State law.”

SEC. 3. CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES.

Section 16(e) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 216(e)) is amended by adding after the first sentence the following: “Any person who violates section 7(r) of this Act shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for each such violation.”

SEC. 4. CONSTRUCTION.

Section 18 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 218) is amended by designating existing section 18 as subsection (a) and by adding a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

“(b)(1) No provision of section 7(r) or of any order thereunder shall be construed to—

“(A) supersede any provision of any State or local law that provides greater protection to employees who are provided compensatory time off in lieu of paid overtime compensation;

“(B) diminish the obligation of an employer to comply with any collective bargaining agreement or any employment benefit program or plan that provides greater protection to employees provided compensatory time off in lieu of paid overtime; or

“(C) discourage employers from adopting or retaining compensatory time plans that provide more protection to employees.

“(2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to allow employers to provide compensatory time plans to classes of employees who are exempted from subsection 7(r), to allow employers to provide more compensatory time than allowed under subsection 7(r), or to supersede any limitations placed by subsection 7(r), including exemp-

tions and limitations in regulations issued by the Secretary thereunder.”

SEC. 5. COMMISSION ON WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Commission on Workplace Flexibility (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Commission”). The members of the Commission shall be selected in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 303 of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2633) and the compensation and powers of the Commission shall be as prescribed in sections 304 and 305 of that Act (29 U.S.C. 2634, 2635).

(b) DUTIES.—The Commission shall conduct a comprehensive study of the impact of compensatory time on private sector employees, including the impact of the law on average earnings, hours of work, work schedules, flexibility of scheduling work to accommodate family needs, and the ability of vulnerable employees or other employees to obtain the compensation to which they are entitled, and shall make a comparison of the compensatory time offered to public and private employees. A report concerning the findings of the study shall be submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress and to the Secretary of Labor not later than 1 year before the expiration of this title. The report shall include recommendations as to whether the compensatory time provisions of section 7(r) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 should be modified or extended, including a recommendation as to whether particular classes of employees or industries should be exempted or otherwise given special treatment and whether additional protections should be given. The Commission shall have no obligation to conduct a study and issue a report pursuant to this section if funds are not authorized and appropriated for that purpose.

SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE; SUNSET.

(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) SUNSET.—The provisions of this Act shall expire 4 years after date of the enactment of this Act.

It was decided in the { Yeas 193
negative } Nays 237

¶25.17

[Roll No. 58]

AYES—193

Abercrombie	Danner	Hall (OH)
Ackerman	Davis (FL)	Hamilton
Allen	Davis (IL)	Harman
Andrews	DeFazio	Hastings (FL)
Baldacci	DeGette	Hefner
Barcia	Delahunt	Hilliard
Barrett (WI)	DeLauro	Hinchey
Becerra	Dellums	Hinojosa
Bentsen	Deutsch	Holden
Berman	Dicks	Hooley
Bishop	Dingell	Hoyer
Blagojevich	Dixon	Jackson (IL)
Blumenauer	Doggett	Jackson-Lee
Bonior	Doyle	(TX)
Borski	Edwards	Jefferson
Boswell	Engel	John
Boucher	English	Johnson (WI)
Boyd	Eshoo	Johnson, E. B.
Brown (CA)	Etheridge	Kanjorski
Brown (FL)	Evans	Kennedy (MA)
Brown (OH)	Farr	Kennedy (RI)
Capps	Fattah	Kennelly
Cardin	Fazio	Kildee
Carson	Filner	Kilpatrick
Clay	Flake	Kind (WI)
Clayton	Foglietta	Kleczka
Clement	Ford	Klink
Clyburn	Frost	LaFalce
Condit	Furse	Lampson
Conyers	Gejdenson	Lantos
Costello	Gonzalez	Lazio
Coyne	Gordon	Levin
Cramer	Green	Lewis (GA)
Cummings	Gutierrez	Lipinski

Lofgren	Neal	Sherman
Lowey	Oberstar	Skaggs
Luther	Obey	Skelton
Maloney (CT)	Olver	Slaughter
Maloney (NY)	Ortiz	Smith, Adam
Manton	Pallone	Snyder
Markey	Pascrell	Spratt
Martinez	Pastor	Stabenow
Mascara	Payne	Stark
Matsui	Pelosi	Stokes
McCarthy (MO)	Peterson (MN)	Stupak
McCarthy (NY)	Pickett	Tanner
McDermott	Pomeroy	Tauscher
McGovern	Poshard	Thompson
McHale	Price (NC)	Thurman
McIntyre	Rahall	Tierney
McNulty	Rangel	Torres
Meehan	Reyes	Towns
Meek	Rivers	Traficant
Menendez	Roemer	Turner
Millender-McDonald	Rothman	Velazquez
Miller (CA)	Roybal-Allard	Vento
Minge	Rush	Waters
Mink	Sabo	Watt (NC)
Moakley	Sanchez	Waxman
Mollohan	Sanders	Wexler
Moran (VA)	Sandlin	Weygand
Morella	Sawyer	Wise
Murtha	Schumer	Woolsey
Nadler	Scott	Wynn
	Serrano	Yates

NOES—237

Aderholt	Fawell	Manzullo
Archer	Foley	McCollum
Armey	Forbes	McCrery
Bachus	Fowler	McDade
Baesler	Fox	McHugh
Baker	Franks (NJ)	McInnis
Ballenger	Frelinghuysen	McIntosh
Barr	Galleghy	McKeon
Barrett (NE)	Ganske	McKinney
Bartlett	Gekas	Metcalf
Barton	Gephardt	Mica
Bass	Gibbons	Miller (FL)
Bateman	Gilchrest	Molinari
Bereuter	Gillmor	Moran (KS)
Berry	Gilman	Myrick
Billbray	Goode	Nethercutt
Bilirakis	Goodlatte	Neumann
Bliley	Goodling	Ney
Blunt	Goss	Northup
Boehlert	Graham	Norwood
Boehner	Granger	Nussle
Bonilla	Greenwood	Owens
Bono	Gutknecht	Oxley
Brady	Hall (TX)	Packard
Bryant	Hansen	Pappas
Bunning	Hastert	Parker
Burr	Hastings (WA)	Paul
Burton	Hayworth	Paxon
Buyer	Hefley	Pease
Callahan	Herger	Peterson (PA)
Calvert	Hill	Petri
Camp	Hilleary	Pickering
Campbell	Hobson	Pitts
Canady	Hoekstra	Pombo
Cannon	Horn	Porter
Castle	Hostettler	Portman
Chabot	Houghton	Pryce (OH)
Chambliss	Hulshof	Quinn
Chenoweth	Hunter	Radanovich
Christensen	Hutchinson	Ramstad
Coble	Hyde	Regula
Coburn	Inglis	Riggs
Collins	Istook	Riley
Combest	Jenkins	Rogan
Cook	Johnson (CT)	Rogers
Cooksey	Johnson, Sam	Rohrabacher
Cox	Jones	Ros-Lehtinen
Crane	Kasich	Roukema
Crapo	Kelly	Royce
Cubin	Kim	Ryun
Cunningham	King (NY)	Salmon
Davis (VA)	Kingston	Sanford
Deal	Klug	Saxton
DeLay	Knollenberg	Scarborough
Diaz-Balart	Kolbe	Schaefer, Dan
Dickey	Kucinich	Schaffer, Bob
Dooley	LaHood	Schiff
Doolittle	Largent	Sensenbrenner
Dreier	Latham	Sessions
Duncan	LaTourette	Shadegg
Dunn	Leach	Shaw
Ehlers	Lewis (CA)	Shays
Ehrlich	Lewis (KY)	Shimkus
Emerson	Linder	Shuster
Ensign	Livingston	Sisisky
Everett	LoBiondo	Skeeny
Ewing	Lucas	Smith (MI)

Smith (NJ)	Sununu	Wamp
Smith (OR)	Talent	Watkins
Smith (TX)	Tauzin	Watts (OK)
Smith, Linda	Taylor (MS)	Weldon (FL)
Snowbarger	Taylor (NC)	Weldon (PA)
Solomon	Thomas	Weller
Souder	Thornberry	White
Spence	Thune	Whitfield
Stearns	Tiahrt	Wickler
Stenholm	Upton	Wolf
Strickland	Visclosky	Young (AK)
Stump	Walsh	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—2

Frank (MA)	Kaptur
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So the amendment in the nature of a substitute was not agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. KOLBE, assumed the Chair.

When Mr. COMBEST, Chairman, pursuant to House Resolution 99, reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted by the Committee.

The previous question having been ordered by said resolution.

The following amendment, reported from the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, was agreed to:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Working Families Flexibility Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. COMPENSATORY TIME.

Section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 207) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(r) COMPENSATORY TIME OFF FOR PRIVATE EMPLOYEES.—

"(1) GENERAL RULE.—

"(A) COMPENSATORY TIME OFF.—An employee may receive, in accordance with this subsection and in lieu of monetary overtime compensation, compensatory time off at a rate not less than one and one-half hours for each hour of employment for which overtime compensation is required by this section.

"(B) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'employee' does not include an employee of a public agency.

"(2) CONDITIONS.—An employer may provide compensatory time to employees under paragraph (1)(A) only if such time is provided in accordance with—

"(A) applicable provisions of a collective bargaining agreement between the employer and the labor organization which has been certified or recognized as the representative of the employees under applicable law, or

"(B) in the case of employees who are not represented by a labor organization which has been certified or recognized as the representative of such employees under applicable law, an agreement arrived at between the employer and employee before the performance of the work and affirmed by a written or otherwise verifiable record maintained in accordance with section 11(c)—

"(i) in which the employer has offered and the employee has chosen to receive compensatory time in lieu of monetary overtime compensation; and

"(ii) entered into knowingly and voluntarily by such employees and not as a condition of employment.

No employee may receive or agree to receive compensatory time off under this subsection unless the employee has worked at least 1000 hours for the employee's employer during a period of continuous employment with the employer in the 12 month period before the date of agreement or receipt of compensatory time off.

"(3) HOUR LIMIT.—

"(A) MAXIMUM HOURS.—An employee may accrue not more than 160 hours of compensatory time.

"(B) COMPENSATION DATE.—Not later than January 31 of each calendar year, the employee's employer shall provide monetary compensation for any unused compensatory time off accrued during the preceding calendar year which was not used prior to December 31 of the preceding year at the rate prescribed by paragraph (6). An employer may designate and communicate to the employer's employees a 12-month period other than the calendar year, in which case such compensation shall be provided not later than 31 days after the end of such 12-month period.

"(C) EXCESS OF 80 HOURS.—The employer may provide monetary compensation for an employee's unused compensatory time in excess of 80 hours at any time after giving the employee at least 30 days notice. Such compensation shall be provided at the rate prescribed by paragraph (6).

"(D) POLICY.—Except where a collective bargaining agreement provides otherwise, an employer which has adopted a policy offering compensatory time to employees may discontinue such policy upon giving employees 30 days notice.

"(E) WRITTEN REQUEST.—An employee may withdraw an agreement described in paragraph (2)(B) at any time. An employee may also request in writing that monetary compensation be provided, at any time, for all compensatory time accrued which has not yet been used. Within 30 days of receiving the written request, the employer shall provide the employee the monetary compensation due in accordance with paragraph (6).

"(4) PRIVATE EMPLOYER ACTIONS.—An employer which provides compensatory time under paragraph (1) to employees shall not directly or indirectly intimidate, threaten, or coerce or attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any employee for the purpose of—

"(A) interfering with such employee's rights under this subsection to request or not request compensatory time off in lieu of payment of monetary overtime compensation for overtime hours; or

"(B) requiring any employee to use such compensatory time.

"(5) TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—An employee who has accrued compensatory time off authorized to be provided under paragraph (1) shall, upon the voluntary or involuntary termination of employment, be paid for the unused compensatory time in accordance with paragraph (6).

"(6) RATE OF COMPENSATION.—

"(A) GENERAL RULE.—If compensation is to be paid to an employee for accrued compensatory time off, such compensation shall be paid at a rate of compensation not less than—

"(i) the regular rate received by such employee when the compensatory time was earned, or

"(ii) the final regular rate received by such employee, whichever is higher.

"(B) CONSIDERATION OF PAYMENT.—Any payment owed to an employee under this subsection for unused compensatory time shall be considered unpaid overtime compensation.

"(7) USE OF TIME.—An employee—

"(A) who has accrued compensatory time off authorized to be provided under paragraph (1), and

"(B) who has requested the use of such compensatory time,

shall be permitted by the employer to use such time within a reasonable period after making the request if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the employer.

"(8) DEFINITIONS.—The terms 'overtime compensation' and 'compensatory time' shall have the meanings given such terms by subsection (o)(7)."

SEC. 3. REMEDIES.

Section 16 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 216) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking "(b) Any employer" and inserting "(b) Except as provided in subsection (f), any employer"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following: "(f) An employer which violates section 7(r)(4) shall be liable to the employee affected in the amount of the rate of compensation (determined in accordance with section 7(r)(6)(A)) for each hour of compensatory time accrued by the employee and in an additional equal amount as liquidated damages reduced by the amount of such rate of compensation for each hour of compensatory time used by such employee."

SEC. 4. NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES.

Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall revise the materials the Secretary provides, under regulations published at 29 C.F.R. 516.4, to employers for purposes of a notice explaining the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to employees so that such notice reflects the amendments made to such Act by this Act.

SEC. 5. SUNSET.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall expire 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read a third time by title.

The question being put, viva voce, Will the House pass said bill?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. KOLBE, announced that the nays had it.

Mr. GOODLING demanded a recorded vote on passage of said bill, which demand was supported by one-fifth of a quorum, so a recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device.

It was decided in the { Yeas 222 affirmative } Nays 210

¶25.18 [Roll No. 59] AYES—222

Table listing names of members in the AYES column, including Aderholt, Archer, Arney, Baker, Ballenger, Barr, Barrett (NE), Bartlett, Barton, Bass, Bateman, Bereuter, Bilbray, Bilirakis, Bliley, Blunt, Boehner, Bonilla, Bono, Boyd, Brady, Bryant, Bunning, Burr, Burton, Buyer, Callahan, Calvert, Camp, Campbell, Canady, Cannon, Castle, Chabot, Chambliss, Chenoweth, Christensen, and Coble.

Table listing names of members in the NOES column, including Knollenberg, Kolbe, LaHood, Largent, Latham, LaTourette, Lazio, Leach, Lewis (CA), Lewis (KY), Linder, Livingston, Lucas, Manzullo, McCollum, McCreery, McInnis, McIntosh, McIntyre, McKeon, Mica, Miller (FL), Minge, Molinari, Moran (KS), Morella, Myrick, Nethercutt, Neumann, Ney, Northup, Norwood, Nussle, Oxley, Packard, Pappas, Parker, Paul, Paxon, Pease, Peterson (MN), Peterson (PA), Petri, Pickering, Pickett, Pitts, Pombo, Porter, Portman, Pryce (OH), Radanovich, Ramstad, Regula, Riggs, Riley, Rogan, Rogers, Rohrabacher, Ros-Lehtinen, Roukema, Royce, Ryun, Salmon, Sanford, Saxton, Scarborough, Schaefer, Dan Schaffer, Bob Sensenbrenner, Sessions, Shadegg, Shaw, Shays, Shuster, Skeen, Smith (MI), Smith (OR), Smith (TX), Smith, Linda, Snowbarger, Solomon, Souder, Spence, Stearns, Stenholm, Stump, Sununu, Talent, Tanner, Tauzin, Taylor (MS), Taylor (NC), Thomas, Thornberry, Thune, Tiahrt, Upton, Walsh, Wamp, Watkins, Watts (OK), Weldon (FL), Weldon (PA), White, Whitfield, Wicker, Wolf, Young (FL).

NOES—210

Table listing names of members in the NOES column, including Abercrombie, Ackerman, Allen, Andrews, Bachus, Baesler, Baldacci, Barcia, Barrett (WI), Becerra, Bentsen, Berman, Berry, Bishop, Blagojevich, Blumenauer, Boehlert, Bonior, Borski, Boswell, Boucher, Brown (CA), Brown (FL), Brown (OH), Capps, Cardin, Carson, Clay, Clayton, Clement, Clyburn, Condit, Conyers, Costello, Coyne, Cramer, Cummings, Danner, Davis (FL), Davis (IL), DeFazio, DeGette, Delahunt, DeLauro, Dellums, Deutsch, Diaz-Balart, Dicks, Dingell, Dixon, Doggett, Doyle, Edwards, Engel, English, Eshoo, Etheridge, Evans, Farr, Fattah, Fazio, Filner, Flake, Foglietta, Forbes, Ford, Frank (MA), Frost, Furse, Gejdenson, Gephardt, Gilman, Gonzalez, Gordon, Green, Gutierrez, Hall (OH), Hamilton, Hastings (FL), Hefner, Hilliard, Hinchey, Hinojosa, Holden, Hooley, Horn, Hoyer, Jackson (IL), Jackson-Lee (TX), Jefferson, Johnson (WI), Johnson, E.B., Johnson, Poshard, Kennedy (MA), Kennedy (RI), Kennelly, Kildee, Kilpatrick, Kind (WI), King (NY), Kleczka, Klink, Kucinich, LaFalce, Lampton, Lantos, Levin, Lewis (GA), Lipinski, LoBiondo, Lofgren, Lowey, Luther, Maloney (CT), Maloney (NY), Manton, Markey, Martinez, Mascara, Matsui, McCarthy (MO), McCarthy (NY), McDade, McDermott, McGovern, McHale, McHugh, McKinney, McNulty, Meehan, Meek, Menendez, Metcalf, Millender-McDonald, Miller (CA), Mink, Moakley, Mollohan, Moran (VA), Murtha, Nadler, Neal, Oberstar, Obey, Olver, Ortiz, Owens, Pallone, Pascrell, Pastor, Payne, Pelosi, Pomeroy, Poshard, Price (NC), Quinn, Rahall, Rangel, Reyes, Rivers, Roemer, Rothman, Roybal-Allard, Rush, Sabo, Sanchez, Sanders, Sandlin, Sawyer, Schiff, Schumer, Scott, Serrano, Sherman, Shimkus, Siskisky, Skaggs, Skelton, Slaughter, Smith (NJ), Smith, Adam, Snyder, Spratt, Stabenow.

Table listing names of members in the NOT VOTING column, including Stark, Stokes, Strickland, Stupak, Tauscher, Thompson, Thurman, Tierney, Torres, Towns, Trafficant, Turner, Velazquez, Vento, Visclosky, Waters, Watt (NC), Waxman, Weller, Wexler, Weygand, Wise, Woolsey, Wynn, Yates, Young (AK).

NOT VOTING—1

Kaptur

So the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby said bill was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said bill.

¶25.19 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. MCINNIS, laid before the House a message from the President, which was read as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, I herewith report one proposed rescission of budgetary resources, totaling \$10 million.

The proposed rescission affects the Department of Energy.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 19, 1997.

By unanimous consent, the message, together with the accompanying papers, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 105-57).

¶25.20 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. MCINNIS, laid before the House a message from the President, which was read as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress the Twenty-fifth Annual Report on Environmental Quality.

As a nation, the most important thing we can do as we move into the 21st century is to give all our children the chance to live up to their God-given potential and live out their dreams. In order to do that, we must offer more opportunity and demand more responsibility from all our citizens. We must help young people get the education and training they need, make our streets safer from crime, help Americans succeed at home and at work, protect our environment for generations to come, and ensure that America remains the strongest force for peace and freedom in the world. Most of all, we must come together as one community to meet our challenges.

Our Nation's leaders understood this a quarter-century ago when they launched the modern era of environmental protection with the National Environmental Policy Act. NEPA's authors understood that environmental protection, economic opportunity, and social responsibility are interrelated. NEPA determined that the Federal Government should work in concert with State and local governments and