

ize and make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes.

H. Con. Res. 66. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for the sixteenth annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, announced the appointment of C. John Sobotka, of Mississippi, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic leader, announced the reappointment of John C. Waugh, of Texas, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

¶48.8 COMMUNITY HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GIBBONS, pursuant to House Resolution 133 and rule XXIII, declared the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2) to repeal the United States Housing Act of 1937, deregulate the public housing program and the program for rental housing assistance for low-income families, and increase community control over such programs, and for other purposes.

Mr. RIGGS, Acting Chairman, assumed the chair; and after some time spent therein,

¶48.9 RECORDED VOTE

A recorded vote by electronic device was ordered in the Committee of the Whole on the following amendment in the nature of a substitute submitted by Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Public Housing Management Reform Act of 1997".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows—

- Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings and purposes.

TITLE I—PUBLIC HOUSING AND RENT REFORMS

- Sec. 101. Establishment of capital and operating funds.
Sec. 102. Determination of rental amounts for residents.
Sec. 103. Minimum rents for public housing and section 8.
Sec. 104. Public housing ceiling rents.
Sec. 105. Disallowance of earned income from public housing and section 8 rent and family contribution determinations.
Sec. 106. Public housing homeownership.
Sec. 107. Public housing agency plan.
Sec. 108. PHMAP indicators for small PHA's.
Sec. 109. PHMAP self-sufficiency indicator.
Sec. 110. Expansion of powers for dealing with PHA's.
Sec. 111. Public housing site-based waiting lists.
Sec. 112. Community service requirements for public housing and section 8 programs.
Sec. 113. Comprehensive improvement assistance program streamlining.

- Sec. 114. Flexibility for PHA funding.
Sec. 115. Replacement housing resources.
Sec. 116. Repeal of one-for-one replacement housing requirement.
Sec. 117. Demolition, site revitalization, replacement housing, and tenant-based assistance grants for developments.
Sec. 118. Performance evaluation board.
Sec. 119. Economic development and supportive services for public housing residents.
Sec. 120. Penalty for slow expenditure of modernization funds.
Sec. 121. Designation of PHA's as troubled.
Sec. 122. Volunteer services under the 1937 Act.
Sec. 123. Authorization of appropriations for operation safe home program.

TITLE II—SECTION 8 STREAMLINING

- Sec. 201. Permanent repeal of Federal preferences.
Sec. 202. Income targeting for public housing and section 8 programs.
Sec. 203. Merger of tenant-based assistance programs.
Sec. 204. Section 8 administrative fees.
Sec. 205. Section 8 homeownership.
Sec. 206. Welfare to work certificates.
Sec. 207. Effect of failure to comply with public assistance requirements.
Sec. 208. Streamlining section 8 tenant-based assistance.
Sec. 209. Nondiscrimination against certificate and voucher holders.
Sec. 210. Recapture and reuse of ACC project reserves under tenant-based assistance program.
Sec. 211. Expanding the coverage of the Public and Assisted Housing Drug Elimination Act of 1990.
Sec. 212. Study regarding rental assistance.

TITLE III—"ONE-STRIKE AND YOU'RE OUT" OCCUPANCY PROVISIONS

- Sec. 301. Screening of applicants.
Sec. 302. Termination of tenancy and assistance.
Sec. 303. Lease requirements.
Sec. 304. Availability of criminal records for public housing tenant screening and eviction.
Sec. 305. Definitions.
Sec. 306. Conforming amendments.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

- (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—
(1) we have a shared national interest in creating safe, decent and affordable housing because, for all Americans, housing is an essential building block toward holding a job, getting an education, participating in the community, and helping fulfill our national goals;
(2) the American people recognized this shared national interest in 1937, when we created a public housing program dedicated to meeting these needs while creating more hope and opportunity for the American people;
(3) for 60 years America's public housing system has provided safe, decent, and affordable housing for millions of low-income families, who have used public housing as a stepping stone toward greater stability, independence, and homeownership;
(4) today, more than 3,300 local public housing agencies—95 percent of all housing agencies throughout America—are providing a good place for families to live and fulfilling their historic mission;
(5) yet, for all our progress as a nation, today, only one out of four Americans who needs housing assistance receives it;
(6) at the same time, approximately 15 percent of the people who live in public housing nationwide live in housing with management designated as "troubled";
(7) for numerous developments at these troubled public housing agencies and else-

where, families face a overwhelming mix of crime, drug trafficking, unemployment, and despair, where there is little hope for a better future or a better life;

(8) the past 60 years have resulted in a system where outdated rules and excessive government regulation are limiting our ability to propose innovative solutions and solve problems, not only at the relatively few local public housing agencies designated as troubled, but at the 3,300 that are working well;

(9) obstacles faced by those agencies that are working well—multiple reports and cumbersome regulations—make a compelling case for deregulation and for concentration by the Department of Housing and Urban Development on fulfillment of the program's basic mission;

(10) all told, the Department has drifted from its original mission, creating bureaucratic processes that encumber the people and organizations it is supposed to serve;

(11) under a framework enacted by Congress, the Department has begun major reforms to address these problems, with dramatic results;

(12) public housing agencies have begun to demolish and replace the worst public housing, reduce crime, promote resident self-sufficiency, upgrade management, and end the isolation of public housing developments from the working world;

(13) the Department has also recognized that for public housing to work better, the Department needs to work better, and has begun a major overhaul of its organization, streamlining operations, improving management, building stronger partnerships with state and local agencies and improving its ability to take enforcement actions where necessary to assure that its programs serve their intended purposes; and

(14) for these dramatic reforms to succeed, permanent legislation is now needed to continue the transformation of public housing agencies, strip away outdated rules, provide necessary enforcement tools, and empower the Department and local agencies to meet the needs of America's families.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act—

(1) to completely overhaul the framework and rules that were put in place to govern public housing 60 years ago;

(2) to revolutionize the way public housing serves its clients, fits in the community, builds opportunity, and prepares families for a better life;

(3) to reaffirm America's historic commitment to safe, decent, and affordable housing and to remove the obstacles to meeting that goal;

(4) to continue the complete and total overhaul of management of the Department;

(5) to dramatically deregulate and reorganize the Federal Government's management and oversight of America's public housing;

(6) to ensure that local public housing agencies spend more time delivering vital services to residents and less time complying with unessential regulations or filing unessential reports;

(7) to achieve greater accountability of taxpayer funds by empowering the Federal Government to take firmer, quicker, and more effective actions to improve the management of troubled local housing authorities and to crack down on poor performance;

(8) to preserve public housing as a rental resource for low-income Americans, while breaking down the extreme social isolation of public housing from mainstream America;

(9) to provide for revitalization of severely distressed public housing, or its replacement with replacement housing or tenant-based assistance;

(10) to integrate public housing reform with welfare reform so that welfare recipients—many of whom are public housing resi-