

circle of opportunity, to deepen the meaning of our freedom, to form that more perfect union. Let that be our gift to the 21st century. God bless you and God bless the United States.

At 10 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m., the President of the United States retired from the Hall of the House, followed by his Cabinet.

The Chief Justice of the United States and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court retired from the Hall of the House.

The ambassadors, ministers and charges d'affaires of foreign governments retired from the Hall of the House.

The SPEAKER, at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m., then declared the joint session of the two Houses dissolved.

The Vice President and Members of the Senate retired from the Hall of the House.

#### ¶1.30 REFERENCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On motion of Mr. DUNCAN, the message of the President, as delivered, was referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 105-178).

#### ¶1.31 SENATE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

Bills and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 191. An Act to throttle criminal use of guns; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 758. An Act to make certain technical corrections to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995.

S. 1172. An Act for the relief of Sylvester Flis.

S. 1213. An Act to establish a National Ocean Council, a Commission on Ocean Policy, and for other purposes, and in addition, to the Committee(s) on Resources, Science, and Transportation and Infrastructure, 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.

S. 1566. An Act to amend the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 to protect the voting rights of military personnel, and for other purposes, and in addition, to the Committee(s) on Judiciary and Veterans' Affairs, 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.

S. Con. Res. 39. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the German Government should expand and simplify its reparations system, provide reparations to Holocaust survivors in Eastern and Central Europe, and set up a fund to help cover the medical expenses of Holocaust survivors.

#### ¶1.32 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted—

To Mr. SCHIFF, for today through February 13, 1998;

To Mr. ORTIZ, for today through February 3, 1998;

To Mr. BECERRA, for today and the balance; and

To Mr. RUSH, for today.

And then,

#### ¶1.33 ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. DUNCAN, pursuant to the provisions of House Resolution 338, at 10 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m., the House adjourned out of respect for the late Honorable Sonny Bono until 1 o'clock p.m., Wednesday, January 28, 1998, pursuant to the special order heretofore agreed to.

#### ¶1.34 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILL

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, report of committees was delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

*[Pursuant to the order of the House on November 13, 1997 the following report was filed on December 19, 1997]*

Mr. LEACH: Committee on Banking and Financial Services. H.R. 217. A bill to amend title IV of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act to consolidate the Federal programs for housing assistance for the homeless into a block grant program that ensures that States and communities are provided sufficient flexibility to use assistance amounts effectively; with an amendment (Rept. No. 105-407). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### ¶1.35 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. NETHERCUTT:

H.R. 3089. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the submission to Congress and the public of the identity of any individual for whom a waiver of the eligibility requirements for interment in Arlington National Cemetery is granted, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mrs. CHENOWETH, and Mr. ROHRBACHER):

H.R. 3090. A bill to require the withdrawal of the United States from the International Monetary Fund; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 3091. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require a two-thirds vote on the passage of legislation that repeals, increases, or waives the discretionary spending limit or repeals or waives the pay-as-you-go provisions of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 if the current year budget was not in surplus or the budget for the fiscal year immediately preceding such year was not in surplus; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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.

By Mr. BARR of Georgia:

H.R. 3092. A bill to repeal authority for administration of an au pair program by the United States Information Agency; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. BARR of Georgia:

H.R. 3093. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to add the drug flunitrazepam to schedule I of the schedules of control substances; to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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.

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

H.R. 3094. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from promulgating certain regulations relating to Indian gaming activities; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. ARCHER (for himself and Mr. KASICH):

H.R. 3095. A bill to establish the Bipartisan Panel to Design Long-Range Social Security Reform; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GREENWOOD:

H.R. 3096. A bill to correct a provision relating to termination of benefits for convicted persons; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LARGENT (for himself, Mr. PAXON, Mr. KASICH, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. CANNON, Mr. CHABOT, Mrs. CHENOWETH, Mr. COOKSEY, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. DUNCAN, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. EHRlich, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. FORBES, Mrs. FOWLER, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. JONES, Mr. LINDER, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MCCREY, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. METCALF, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. PAUL, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. REDMOND, Mr. RIGGS, Mr. RILEY, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. BOB SCHAFFER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHADEGG, Mrs. LINDA SMITH of Washington, Mr. SNOWBARGER, Mr. STUMP, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. TALENT, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WAMP, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. WICKER, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MCKEON, and Mr. BONILLA):

H.R. 3097. A bill to terminate the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LIVINGSTON:

H.R. 3098. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate public financing of Presidential election campaigns; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCNULTY (for himself, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. FORD, Mr. PAUL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FROST, Mrs. MYRICK, and Mr. BALDACCIO):

H.R. 3099. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require that recipients of Federal payments have the option to receive such payments by electronic funds transfer or by check; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

By Mr. BONIOR (for himself, Mr. GEPHARDT, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. KENNELLY of Connecticut, Mr. CLAY, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. BROWN of California, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COYNE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FATAH, Mr. FILNER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. GREEN, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HEFNER, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts,

Mr. KILDEE, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. KLINK, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. MANTON, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MILLER of California, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. OLVER, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. RAHALL, Ms. ROYBAL-AL-LARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SAWYER, Mr. STARK, Mr. TORRES, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. WATERS, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. FURSE, Mr. JACKSON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. MCKINNEY, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. SABO, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SLAGHTER, Mr. STOKES, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. VENTO, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. WYNN):

H.R. 3100. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the Federal minimum wage; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts:

H.R. 3101. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require faster vesting of employer contributions to defined benefit plans, to require employer plans to permit rollovers to individual retirement accounts on an employee's separation from service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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.

By Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts:

H.R. 3102. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an inflation adjustment for the maximum amount which may be contributed to an individual retirement plan; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PITTS (for himself, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. COOK, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. BOB SCHAFFER, Mr. SNOWBARGER, Mr. BRADY, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. ROGAN, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. CANNON, Mr. PEASE, Mr. REDMOND, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. RYUN):

H.R. 3103. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the standard deduction for married individuals, to exclude certain amounts of interest and dividends from gross income, to increase the deduction for the health insurance costs of self-employed individuals, and to allow private colleges to establish prepaid tuition plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RILEY (for himself, Mr. SALMON, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. CANNON, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. PAUL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. DELAY):

H.R. 3104. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that married couples may file a combined return under which each spouse is taxed using the rates applicable to unmarried individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ROHRABACHER:

H.R. 3105. A bill to provide that the President may not waive the prohibitions on providing to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam financing and other forms of assistance by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation or the Export-Import Bank; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, 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.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. ROHRABACHER, and Mr. PAUL):

H.R. 3106. A bill to restrict the use of the exchange stabilization fund; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. SAXTON:

H.R. 3107. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for termination of a military retiree's required contributions to the military Survivor Benefit Plan after the retiree has made contributions for 30 years and has attained age 70; to the Committee on National Security.

By Mr. SAXTON (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 3108. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to correct inequities in payments to home health agencies for home health services under the interim payment system; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, 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.

By Mr. SOLOMON:

H.R. 3109. A bill to establish the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in the State of New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. TALENT (for himself, Mr. LATOURETTE, and Mr. PAUL):

H.R. 3110. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow small employers a credit against income tax for certain expenses for long-term training of employees in highly skilled metalworking trades; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. VISCLOSKY:

H.R. 3111. A bill to assure that the services of a non-emergency department physician are available to hospital patients 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week in all non-Federal hospitals with at least 100 licensed beds; 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.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 3112. A bill to authorize funds for the use by the United States Customs Service of high energy container x-ray systems and automated targeting systems for inspection of cargo at major checkpoints along the borders of the United States that are contiguous with other countries; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 3113. A bill to reauthorize the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. LEACH (for himself, Mr. LAFALCE, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. VENTO, Mr. HINCHEY, and Mr. JACKSON):

H.R. 3114. A bill to authorize United States participation in a quota increase and the New Arrangements to Borrow of the International Monetary Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD:

H.R. 3115. A bill to establish professional development partnerships to improve the quality of America's teachers and the academic achievement of students in the classroom, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ARMEY:

H. Con. Res. 201. Concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment of the two Houses; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GOODLING (for himself, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. GREEN-

WOOD, Mr. COOK, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. WOLF, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. PITTS, Mr. SNOWBARGER, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. LARGENT, and Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky):

H. Con. Res. 202. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Federal Government should acknowledge the importance of at-home parents and should not discriminate against families who forego a second income in order for a mother or father to be at home with their children; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MASCARA (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. MURTHA, and Mr. KILDEE):

H. Con. Res. 203. Concurrent resolution requesting that the United States Postal Service issue a commemorative postage stamp honoring the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

By Mr. RYUN:

H. Con. Res. 204. Concurrent resolution honoring the members of the United States Armed Forces who served, and the families of members of the United States Armed Forces who lost their lives or were injured, during the Tet Offensive of the Vietnam War; to the Committee on National Security.

By Mr. DREIER:

H. Res. 335. A resolution providing for a committee to notify the President of the assembly of the Congress; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ARMEY:

H. Res. 336. A resolution to inform the Senate that a quorum of the House has assembled; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ARMEY:

H. Res. 337. A resolution providing for the hour of meeting of the House; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LEWIS of California:

H. Res. 338. A resolution expressing the condolences of the House on the death of the Honorable Sonny Bono, A Representative from the State of California; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BARR of Georgia:

H. Res. 339. A resolution expressing the sense of the House that sections 3345 through 3349 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the "Vacancies Act"), relating to the appointment of certain officers to fill vacant positions in Executive agencies, apply to all Executive agencies, including the Department of Justice; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, 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.

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H. Res. 340. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that any budgetary surplus achieved by the end of fiscal year 2002 be saved for investment in the Social Security Program; to the Committee on the Budget, 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.

### 1.36 MEMORIALS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

232. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 75 memorializing the Congress of the