

8767. A letter from the Comptroller General, the General Accounting Office, transmitting a review of the President's first special impoundment message for fiscal year 1998, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 685; (H. Doc. No. 105-242); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

8768. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially to the Republic of Korea (Transmittal No. DTC-61-98), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

8769. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of VOR Federal Airway; CA [Airspace Docket No. 97-AWP-17] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8770. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of the Atlantic High Offshore Airspace Area [Airspace Docket No. 97-ASO-16] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8771. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment to Class E Airspace; Topeka, Forbes Field, KS; Correction [Airspace Docket No. 98-ACE-1] received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8772. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment to Class E Airspace; Valentine, NE [Airspace Docket No. 97-ACE-39] received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8773. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment to Class E Airspace; Chadron, NE [Airspace Docket No. 97-ACE-38] received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8774. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Model GV Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-114-AD; Amendment 39-10480; AD 98-09-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8775. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; SOCATA—Groupe AEROSPATIALE Model TBM 700 Airplanes [Docket NO. 97-CE-42-AD; Amendment 39-10476; AD 98-08-27] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8776. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Avions Pierre Robin Model R3000/160 Airplanes [Docket No. 97-CE-88-AD; Amendment 39-10477; AD 98-08-28] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8777. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Twin Commander Aircraft Corporation 500, 680, 690, and 695 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 96-CE-54-AD; Amend-

ment 39-10474; AD 98-08-25] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 23, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

¶35.5 RHINO AND TIGER PRODUCT LABELING

Mr. SAXTON moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2807) to amend the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 to prohibit the sale, importation, and exportation of products labeled as containing substances derived from rhinoceros or tiger; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, recognized Mr. SAXTON and Mr. MILLER of California, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

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

¶35.6 SRI LANKA INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BEREUTER moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolution (H. Res. 350):

Whereas on February 4, 1948, the people of Sri Lanka gained their independence from the British;

Whereas the people of Sri Lanka and the United States have a common interest in the promotion and preservation of democratic systems of government;

Whereas the people of Sri Lanka and the United States have had many shared values and interests, including the desire to promote the peaceful development of the South Asian region;

Whereas Sri Lankan citizens who have visited or lived in the United States, and United States citizens who have visited or lived in Sri Lanka, have done much to improve mutual understanding and build friendship over the past fifty years;

Whereas United States citizens of Sri Lankan origin have contributed greatly to the advancement of knowledge, the development of the United States economy, and the enrichment of cultural life in the United States;

Whereas the ties of trade and investment between the United States and Sri Lanka have grown over fifty years to the benefit of the people of both countries; and

Whereas the fiftieth anniversary of the independence of Sri Lanka offers an opportunity for Sri Lanka and the United States to renew their commitment to international cooperation on issues of mutual interest and concern: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the people of Sri Lanka on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of their nation's independence; and

(2) looks forward to broadening and deepening United States cooperation and friendship with Sri Lanka in the years ahead for the benefit of the people of both countries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, recognized Mr. BEREUTER and Mr. LUTHER, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said resolution?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said resolution was agreed to was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

¶35.7 CEASE FIRE IN AFGHANISTAN

Mr. BEREUTER moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 218); as amended:

Whereas peace and stability has not returned to Afghanistan despite the February 1989 Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan;

Whereas the Department of State's Country Reports on Human Rights for 1997 states: "The overall human rights situation [in Afghanistan] is poor . . . political killings, torture, rape, arbitrary detention, looting, abductions and kidnappings for ransom were committed by armed units, local commanders, and rogue individuals";

Whereas the continuing civil conflict in Afghanistan has had a grievous impact upon the Afghan people, where within its borders occurs the highest rate of infant, child, and maternal mortality in the region;

Whereas neighboring countries have provided support in the form of financial assistance and arms to the different groups warring in Afghanistan, thereby extending the length and expanding the destruction of this internal conflict;

Whereas another byproduct of this conflict is the harboring of Islamic militants and terrorist leaders in Afghanistan;

Whereas due to the tyranny and destruction caused by Taliban rule, Afghanistan is now one of the world's leading producers of opium, and over the past year alone, the production of opiates in Afghanistan has increased and resulted in a growth in the drug trade not only in the Central and South Asian regions but in Russia and the West as well;

Whereas continuing instability serves as an obstacle to international investment and the establishment of developmental projects inside Afghanistan, so necessary to Afghanistan's rejuvenation from years of conflict, and central to promoting political cooperation among Afghan factions;

Whereas the continuing conflict in Afghanistan serves as an impediment to economic prosperity and political development throughout all of South Asia and the newly independent Central Asian nations as well; and

Whereas despite repeated efforts by the United Nations to broker an end to continuing warfare among the country's warring factions, the absence of peace has prevented Afghanistan from addressing the numerous problems facing its citizenry: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—