

port to Congress; jointly to the Committees on National Security and International Relations.

9084. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting four items of proposed legislation that address several concerns of the Department of Defense; jointly to the Committees on National Security and Transportation and Infrastructure.

9085. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting several drafts of proposed legislation that address several management concerns of the Department of Defense; jointly to the Committees on National Security and International Relations.

9086. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the 1997 annual report on the activities of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation relating to the supervision of banks or departments of banks that are operating as municipal securities brokers or dealers, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 78w(b); jointly to the Committees on Banking and Financial Services and Commerce.

9087. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medicare Program; Scope of Medicare Benefits and Application of the Outpatient Mental Health Treatment Limitations to Clinical Psychologists and Clinical Social Worker Services [HCF A-3706-F] (RIN: 0938-AE99) received April 27, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Commerce and Ways and Means.

9088. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Federal Equal Opportunity Recruitment Program for Fiscal Year 1997, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3905(d)(2); jointly to the Committees on International Relations and Government Reform and Oversight.

9089. A letter from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended, to extend the authorization of appropriations for the Office of Government Ethics through fiscal year 2007, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1110; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Government Reform and Oversight.

9090. A letter from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's Fifth Biennial Report to the Congress, pursuant to Public Law 95-452, section 408 (102 Stat. 3032); jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Government Reform and Oversight.

9091. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting the crude oil tanker ballast facility study, pursuant to Public Law 104-332, section 2(b)(2) (110 Stat. 4081); jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Resources.

9092. A letter from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to reform and improve the administration of certain programs of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; jointly to the Committees on Agriculture, Ways and Means, and Commerce.

9093. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Defense, transmitting proposals of legislation that address several management concerns of the Department of Defense; jointly to the Committees on National Security, Government Reform and Oversight, and the Judiciary.

9094. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting drafts of 2 proposals of legislation, to establish a more effective organization and financing structure for air traffic services and investments within the Federal Aviation Administration and to authorize appropriations for the Federal Avia-

tion Administration for fiscal years 1999—2002, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1110; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Ways and Means, the Budget, and Rules.

#### ¶42.4 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 414. An Act to amend the Shipping Act of 1984 to encourage competition in international shipping and growth of United States exports, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 265. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the East Front of the Capitol Grounds for performances sponsored by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 276d-276g of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group during the Second Session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress, to be held in Nantucket, Massachusetts, May 14-18, 1998:

the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY); and  
the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS).

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 100-696, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints the following Senators as members of the United States Capitol Preservation Commission:

the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON); and

the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT).

#### ¶42.5 COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. MILLER of Florida, laid before the House a communication, which was read as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
Washington, DC, May 11, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on May 8, 1998 at 2:08 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits proposed legislation entitled the "Class-Size Reduction and Teacher Quality Act of 1998."

With warm regards,  
ROBIN H. CARLE,  
Clerk.

#### ¶42.6 CLASS-SIZE REDUCTION AND TEACHER QUALITY

The Clerk then read the message from the President, as follows:

#### *To the Congress of the United States:*

I am pleased to transmit today for your immediate consideration and enactment the "Class-Size Reduction and Teacher Quality Act of 1998." This legislative proposal would help States and local school districts recruit, train, and hire 100,000 additional well-prepared teachers in order to reduce the average class size to 18 in grades 1 through 3 in our Nation's public schools. It is an essential part of our overall effort to strengthen public schools throughout the Nation.

As schools across the Nation struggle to accommodate a surge in enrollments, educators and parents have become increasingly concerned about the impact of class size on teaching and learning, particularly in the critically important early grades, where students learn reading and other basic skills. This concern is justified: rigorous research confirms what parents and teachers have long believed—that students in smaller classes, especially in the early grades, make greater educational gains and maintain those gains over time. These gains occur because teachers in small classes can provide students with more individualized attention, spend more time on instruction and less time on discipline, and cover more material effectively. Moreover, the benefits of smaller classes are greatest for poor, minority, and inner-city children, the children who often face the greatest challenges in meeting high educational standards.

Smaller classes will have the greatest impact on student learning if the new teachers brought into the classroom are well qualified to teach reading and to take advantage of smaller learning environments. For this reason, my proposal emphasizes not just class-size reduction but also professional development for educators, and it will give school districts adequate time to recruit and train staff while phasing in smaller classes. Furthermore, all new teachers hired under the program would be required to pass a State teacher competency test and would also have to be certified to teach or be making satisfactory progress toward full certification.

We can help all of our students learn to read independently and well by the third grade, get a solid foundation in basic skills, and reach high educational standards if we start them off with small classes and well-prepared teachers in the early grades.

Under my proposal, the Department of Education would provide \$20.8 billion in mandatory appropriations over a 10-year period (beginning with \$1.1 billion in fiscal year 1999) to States. The States would then distribute the funds to local school districts based on their relative class sizes in grades 1 through 3, as well as on their ability and effort to finance class-size reductions with their own resources. The bill would provide States with considerable flexibility in distributing these funds, while ensuring that the most needy school districts receive a fair share.

Moreover, because my proposal would actually appropriate the funds needed to carry out the program, States and local communities could count on these funds without the need for separate congressional appropriations each year. This proposal is fully paid for within my Fiscal Year 1999 Budget, and therefore would not reduce the budget surplus.

School districts would use these funds to reduce class sizes in grades 1 through 3. Just as importantly, these funds would also be available for a variety of activities to ensure that students in the early grades receive sound and effective instruction, such as making sure that teachers know how to teach reading and other subjects effectively in small classes.

This proposal includes strong accountability for results. Participating school districts would produce "report cards" documenting reductions in class sizes and the achievement of their students in reading, based on rigorous assessments. Schools whose students fail to make gains in reading would be required to undertake corrective actions. In addition, the Department of Education would undertake a comprehensive national evaluation of this program and its impact on reading achievement and teaching.

I urge the Congress to take prompt and favorable action on this proposal. Its enactment would help school districts reduce class sizes in the early grades and improve instruction and achievement in reading, issues that are of major importance to parents and to the Nation.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *May 8, 1998.*

The message, together with the accompanying papers, was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 105-249).

And then,

#### ¶42.7 ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mrs. CHENOWETH, pursuant to the special order agreed to on Thursday, May 7, 1998, at 2 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m., the House adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, 1998.

#### ¶42.8 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:

*[Submitted May 8, 1998]*

Mr. ARCHER: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 2431. A bill to establish an Office of Religious Persecution Monitoring, to provide for the imposition of sanctions against countries engaged in a pattern of religious persecution, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. No. 105-480, Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HYDE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2431. A bill to establish an Office of Religious Persecution Monitoring, to provide for the imposition of sanctions against coun-

tries engaged in a pattern of religious persecution, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. No. 105-480, Pt. 3). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

*[Submitted May 11, 1998]*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 2556. A bill to reauthorize the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and the Partnerships for Wildlife Act; with an amendment (Rept. No. 105-522). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

#### ¶42.9 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. SENSENBRENNER (for himself, Mrs. MORELLA, and Mr. COOK):

H.R. 3824. A bill amending the Fastener Quality Act to exempt from its coverage certain fasteners approved by the Federal Aviation Administration for use in aircraft; to the Committee on Science, 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. ANDREWS:

H.R. 3825. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to ensure that the National Labor Relations Board does not decline to assert jurisdiction over the horse-racing and dogracing industries; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 3826. A bill to amend the Davis-Bacon Act to provide that a contractor under that Act who has repeated violations of the Act shall have its contract with the United States canceled; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 3827. A bill to require the disclosure under freedom of information provisions of Federal law of certain payroll information under contracts subject to the Davis-Bacon Act; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.J. Res. 118. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to authorize the line item veto; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ¶42.10 MEMORIALS

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

307. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Hawaii, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 141 memorializing the United States Congress to restore food stamp benefits to legal, noncitizen immigrants who have been denied participation in the federal Food Stamp Program due to Public Law 104-193; to the Committee on Agriculture.

308. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Georgia, relative to Senate Resolution 492 memorializing the Congress of the United States to take immediate and appropriate action to have the State of Georgia declared an agricultural disaster area and provide needed assistance to Georgia's farm families; to the Committee on Agriculture.

309. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, relative to Resolutions memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States to shift funds from the military to the states; to the Committee on National Security.

310. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of California, relative to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 52 memorializing the Congress and the President of the United States to act to vindicate the sailors unjustly blamed for, and the sailors convicted of mutiny following, the Port Chicago disaster, and to rectify any mistreatment by the military of those sailors; to the Committee on National Security.

311. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Vermont, relative to House Resolution 39 memorializing the United States Congress to support legislation that will curtail this economic warfare; to the Committee on Commerce.

312. Also, a memorial of the Assembly of the State of California, relative to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 47 memorializing the 50th anniversary of independence for the State of Israel and looking forward to the celebration of the centurion in the Jewish calendar year 5808; to the Committee on International Relations.

313. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Georgia, relative to Senate Resolution 662 memorializing Congress to oppose any effort to lift or weaken sanctions against Cuba and not to take any other action to support Fidel Castro's communist Cuba; and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

314. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Alabama, relative to House Joint Resolution 261 memorializing the Congress of the United States to prepare and submit to the several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to add a new article; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

315. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Colorado, relative to House Joint Resolution 98-1018, memorializing that the Colorado General Assembly does not support at this time any Congressional action that would establish a national policy expanding taxation of the Internet and other interactive computer services; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

316. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of Colorado, relative to House Joint Resolution 98-1017 memorializing the United States Congress to enact legislation reauthorizing the federal highway program by May 1, 1998; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

317. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Hawaii, relative to Senate Resolution No. 76 memorializing the United States Congress to enact legislation reauthorizing the federal highway program by May 1, 1998; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

318. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Kentucky, relative to Senate Resolution No. 195 memorializing the United States Congress to provide funding without mandates to the Transportation Cabinet; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

319. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Georgia, relative to Senate Resolution 591 memorializing Congress to reduce or eliminate the motor fuel tax on low sulphur fuels as a means of encouraging their use and achieving cleaner air.; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

320. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Alabama, relative to House Joint Resolution 227 memorializing Congress to enact legislation to increase the volume limits for the issuance of private activity tax-exempt bonds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

321. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Hawaii, relative to Senate Resolution No. 89 memorializing that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations is re-