

the General Accounting Office to render an opinion on the Government's financial statements;

Whereas only 2 of the 24 Federal agencies required to submit reports have reliable financial information, effective internal controls, and complied with applicable laws and regulations;

Whereas the financial statements of the Department of Defense could not be relied on to provide basic information regarding the existence, location, and value of much of its \$635,000,000 in property, plant, and equipment;

Whereas the Department of Defense could not account for 2 utility boats valued at \$174,000 each, 2 large harbor tug boats valued at \$875,000 each, 1 floating crane valued at \$468,000, 15 aircraft engines (including 2 F-18 engines valued at \$4,000,000 each), and one Avenger Missile Launcher valued at \$1,000,000;

Whereas inaccurate or unreliable data, such as the findings that 220 more tanks, 10 fewer helicopters, 25 fewer aircraft, and 8 fewer cruise missiles existed than those reported in the system of the Department of Defense, harms deployment activities;

Whereas the Department of Housing and Urban Development spends \$18,000,000,000 each year in rent and operating subsidies, with \$1 of every \$18 being paid out unjustifiably;

Whereas financial management is so poor within Federal credit agencies that the true cost of the Federal Government's loan and guarantee programs cannot be reliably determined;

Whereas the Federal Aviation Administration's records regarding \$5,500,000,000 in equipment and property are unreliable, including \$198,000,000 in recorded assets that no longer exist, \$245,000,000 in spare parts that were omitted from the financial statements, and \$3,300,000,000 in works-in-process that could not be verified;

Whereas the Forest Service lacks a reliable system for tracking its reported 378,000 miles of roads;

Whereas the Medicare program identified an estimated \$20,300,000,000 worth of improper payments in fiscal year 1997;

Whereas the Social Security Administration has identified \$1,000,000,000 in overpayments for fiscal year 1997;

Whereas the Department of the Treasury recorded a net \$12,000,000,000 "plug" recorded as "unreconciled transactions", made up of over \$100,000,000,000 of unreconciled, unsupported transactions, to make its books balance; and

Whereas the disclaimers, mismanagement, and poor recordkeeping in the Federal Government expose taxpayers to continued waste, fraud, error, and mismanagement, and provide inadequate information to Congress for budget, appropriations, and reauthorization decisions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) the first-ever Governmentwide financial audit demonstrated serious concerns with financial management by the majority of Federal agencies;

(2) current efforts with respect to financial management by all too many Federal agencies have failed; and

(3) therefore, Congress must impose consequences on Federal agencies that fail their annual financial audits and conduct more vigorous oversight to ensure that Federal agencies do not waste the tax dollars of the people of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. UPTON, recognized Mr. HORN and Mr. KUCINICH, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said resolution, as amended?

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

Mr. HORN demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. UPTON, pursuant to clause 5, rule 1, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶54.10 LAKE CHELAN NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST

Mrs. CHENOWETH moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3520) to adjust the boundaries of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area and the adjacent Wenatchee National Forest in the State of Washington.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. UPTON, recognized Mrs. CHENOWETH and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. UPTON, 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 was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and 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.

¶54.11 NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREEDOM

Mr. HANSEN moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1635) to establish within the United States National Park Service the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and for other purposes; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. UPTON, recognized Mr. HANSEN and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, 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. STEARNS, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. STEARNS, pursuant to clause 5, rule 1, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed.

¶54.12 GEORGE MASON MEMORIAL

Mr. HANSEN moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill of the Senate (S. 423) to extend the legislative authority for the Board of Regents of Gunston Hall to establish a memorial to honor George Mason.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. STEARNS, recognized Mr. HANSEN and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. STEARNS, 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 was passed.

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

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate thereof.

¶54.13 U.S. HOLOCAUST ASSETS COMMISSION

Mr. LEACH moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3662) to establish a commission to examine issues pertaining to the disposition of Holocaust-era assets in the United States before, during, and after World War II, and to make recommendations to the President on further action, and for other purposes; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. STEARNS, recognized Mr. LEACH and Mr. LAFALCE, 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. STEARNS, 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.

On motion of Mr. LEACH, by unanimous consent, the bill of the Senate (S. 1900) to establish a commission to examine issues pertaining to the disposition of Holocaust-era assets in the United States before, during, and after World War II, and to make recommendations to the President on further action, and for other purposes; was taken from the Speaker's table.

When said bill was considered and read twice.

Mr. LEACH submitted the following amendment, which was agreed to:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the provisions of H.R. 3662, as passed by the House.