

for surveying and certifying renal dialysis facilities for compliance with the Medicare conditions and requirements of section 1881(b) of the Social Security Act; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce.

¶19.9 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATOURETTE, laid before the House a message from the President, which was read as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

It is my pleasure to transmit herewith the Annual Report of the National Endowment for the Arts for Fiscal Year 1997.

The Arts Endowment awards more than one thousand grants each year to nonprofit arts organizations for projects that bring the arts to millions of Americans. Once again, this year's grants reflect the diversity of our Nation's culture and the creativity of our artists. Whether seeing a classic theatrical production in Connecticut or an art exhibition in Arizona, whether listening to a symphony in Iowa or participating in a fine arts training program for inner-city students in Louisiana, Americans who benefit from Arts Endowment grants have experienced the power and joy of the arts in their lives.

Arts Endowment grants in 1997 supported:

- projects in theater, dance, music, visual arts, and the other artistic disciplines, demonstrating that our diversity is an asset—and helping us to interpret the past, understand each other in the present, and envision the future;
- folk and traditional arts programs, which strengthen and showcase our rich cultural heritage; and
- arts education, which helps improve our children's skills and enhances their lives with the richness of the arts.

The arts challenge our imaginations, nourish our spirits, and help to sustain our democracy. We are a Nation of creators and innovators. As this report illustrates, the NEA continues to celebrate America's artistic achievements and makes the arts more accessible to the American people.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 9, 1999.*

By unanimous consent, the message, together with the accompanying papers, was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

¶19.10 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—
TRADE POLICY AGREEMENTS PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATOURETTE, laid before the House a message from the President, which was read as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 1999 Trade Policy Agenda and the 1998 Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program. This report includes

the Annual Report on the World Trade Organization, as required by section 124 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3534).

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 9, 1999.*

By unanimous consent, the message, together with the accompanying papers, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

¶19.11 1999 NURSING HOME RESIDENT
PROTECTION

Mr. BILIRAKIS moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 540) to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit transfers or discharges of residents of nursing facilities as a result of a voluntary withdrawal from participation in the Medicaid Program.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATOURETTE, recognized Mr. BILIRAKIS and Mr. BROWN of Ohio, 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. LATOURETTE, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. BILIRAKIS 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. LATOURETTE, pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed until Wednesday, March 10, 1999.

¶19.12 CHANGE OF REFERENCE—H.R. 809

On motion of Mr. GEKAS, by unanimous consent, the Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 809) to amend the Act of June 1, 1948, to provide for reform of the Federal Protection Service.

When said bill was rereferred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

¶19.13 UNITED STATES CODE
REENACTMENT EXTENSION

Mr. GEKAS moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 808) to extend for 3 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. LATOURETTE, recognized Mr. GEKAS and Ms. BALDWIN, 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. LATOURETTE, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, 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. LATOURETTE, pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed until Wednesday, March 10, 1999.

¶19.14 FREE ELECTIONS IN INDONESIA

Mr. BEREUTER moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolution (H. Res. 32):

Whereas Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country, has the world's largest Muslim population, and has repeatedly demonstrated itself to be a good friend of the United States;

Whereas a stable and democratic Indonesia can continue to play an important leadership role in the security and stability of Southeast Asia;

Whereas Indonesian national elections in 1955 were judged to be free and fair, but more recent elections have been far more problematic;

Whereas in response to overwhelming public demand, long-time leader (32 years) Soeharto resigned on May 21, 1998;

Whereas elections for the House of Representatives of Indonesia (DPR) have been scheduled for June 7, 1999;

Whereas it is in the interests of all Indonesians and friends of Indonesia that the June 1999 elections be free, fair, and transparent;

Whereas the Government of Indonesia has welcomed international interest and technical support for the elections, under the coordination of the United Nations Development Program;

Whereas United States and international nongovernmental organizations such as the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), the Asia Foundation, the International Republican Institute (IRI), the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES), and the American Center for International Labor Solidarity (ACILS) are providing election assistance throughout Indonesia; and

Whereas the active participation in election monitoring by the international community, including the United States Congress, would contribute meaningfully to the Indonesian election: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the aspirations of the Indonesian people for democratic elections;

(2) urges the Government of Indonesia to take all steps, including the provision of adequate financial and administrative resources, to ensure that the parliamentary elections scheduled for June 7, 1999, are free, fair, and transparent, according to internationally recognized standards, and that an institutional capacity is put in place for free and fair elections in the future;

(3) calls upon the Government of Indonesia to enact election laws that ensure that the will of the people is respected, both in the parliamentary elections scheduled for June 7 and in the general session of the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) that will elect a new President and Vice President later in 1999;

(4) appeals to all political leaders and responsible persons to strive to ensure that the campaign period remains peaceful;

(5) calls upon all Indonesian political parties, the armed forces, and the public at large to respect the results of free and fair elections;

(6) recognizes with approval the activities of domestic and international nongovernmental organizations in the areas of voter education, technical assistance, and election monitoring;