

I am pleased to transmit for your immediate consideration the "Educational Excellence for All Children Act of 1999," my Administration's proposal for reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) and other elementary and secondary education programs.

My proposal builds on the positive trends achieved under current law. The "Improving America's Schools Act of 1994," which reauthorized the ESEA 5 years ago, and the "Goals 2000: Educate America Act" gave States and school districts a framework for integrating Federal resources in support of State and local reforms based on high academic standards. In response, 48 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have adopted State-level standards. Recent results of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) show improved performance for the economically disadvantaged and other at-risk students who are the primary focus of ESEA programs. NAEP reading scores for 9-year olds in high-poverty schools have improved significantly since 1992, while mathematics achievement has also increased nationally. Students in high-poverty schools and the lowest-performing students—the specific target populations for the ESEA Title I program—have registered gains in both reading and math achievement.

I am encouraged by these positive trends, but educational results for many children remain far below what they should be. My proposal to reauthorize the ESEA is based on four themes reflecting lessons from research and the experience of implementing the 1994 Act.

First, we would continue to focus on high academic standards for all children. The underlying purpose of every program within the ESEA is to help all children reach challenging State and local academic standards. States have largely completed the first stage of standards-based reform by developing content standards for all children. My bill would support the next stage of reform by helping States, school districts, schools, and teachers use these standards to guide classroom instruction and assessment.

My proposal for reauthorizing Title I, for example, would require States to hold school districts and schools accountable for student performance against State standards, including helping the lowest-performing students continually to improve. The bill also would continue to target Federal elementary and secondary education resources on those students furthest from meeting State and local standards, with a particular emphasis on narrowing the gap in achievement between disadvantaged students and their more affluent peers. In this regard, my proposal would phase in equal treatment of Puerto Rico in ESEA funding formulas, so that poor children in Puerto Rico are treated similarly to those in the rest of the country for the purpose of formula allocations.

Second, my proposal responds to research showing that while qualified teachers are critical to improving student achievement, far too many teachers are not prepared to teach to high standards. Teacher quality is a particular problem in high-poverty schools, and the problem is often exacerbated by the use of paraprofessionals in instructional roles.

My bill addresses teacher quality by holding States accountable for stronger enforcement of their own certification and licensure requirements, while at the same time providing substantial support for State and local professional development efforts. The Teaching to High Standards initiative in Title II would help move challenging educational standards into every classroom by providing teachers with sustained and intensive high-quality professional development in core academic subjects, supporting new teachers during their first 3 years in the classroom, and ensuring that all teachers are proficient in relevant content knowledge and teaching skills.

The Technology for Education initiative under Title III would expand the availability of educational technology as a tool to help teachers implement high standards in the classroom, particularly in high-poverty schools. My bill also would extend, over the next 7 years, the Class-Size Reduction initiative, which aims to reduce class sizes in the early grades by helping districts to hire and train 100,000 teachers. And the Title VII Bilingual Education proposal would help ensure that all teachers are well trained to teach students with limited English proficiency, who are found in more and more classrooms with each passing year.

Third, my bill would increase support for safe, healthy, disciplined, and drug-free learning environments where all children feel connected, motivated, and challenged to learn and where parents are welcomed and involved. The recent tragedy at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, reminds us that we must be ever vigilant against the risks of violence and other dangerous behaviors in our schools. Our reauthorization bill includes several measures to help mitigate these risks.

We would strengthen the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act by concentrating funds on districts with the greatest need for drug- and violence-prevention programs, and by emphasizing the use of research-based programs of proven effectiveness. Moreover, with respect to students who bring weapons to school, this proposal would require schools to refer such students to a mental health professional for assessment and require counseling for those who pose an imminent threat to themselves or others; allow funding for programs that educate students about the risks associated with guns; expand character education programs; and promote alternative schools and second chance programs. A new School Emergency Response to Violence program would provide rapid assistance to

school districts that have experienced violence or other trauma that disrupts the learning environment.

My High School Reform initiative would support innovative reforms to improve student achievement in high schools, such as expanding the connections between adults and students that are necessary for effective learning and healthy personal development. This new initiative would provide resources to help transform 5,000 high schools into places where students receive individual attention, are motivated to learn, are provided with challenging courses, and are encouraged to develop and pursue long-term educational and career goals.

Fourth, in response to clear evidence that standards-based reforms work best when States have strong accountability systems in place, my proposal would encourage each State to establish a single, rigorous accountability system for all schools. The bill also would require States to end social promotion and traditional retention practices; phase out the use of teachers with emergency certificates and the practice of assigning teachers "out-of-field;" and implement sound discipline policies in every school. Finally, the bill would give parents an important new accountability tool by requiring State, district, and school-level report cards that will help them evaluate the quality of the school their children attend.

Based on high standards for all students, high-quality professional development for teachers, safe and disciplined learning environments, and accountability to parents and taxpayers, the Educational Excellence for All Children Act of 1999 provides a solid foundation for raising student achievement and narrowing the achievement gap between disadvantaged students and their more advantaged peers. More important, it will help prepare all of our children, and thus the Nation, for the challenges of the 21st century. I urge the Congress to take prompt and favorable action on this proposal.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *May 21, 1999.*

By unanimous consent, the message, together with the accompanying papers, was referred to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Armed Services, and Banking and Financial Services and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 106-68).

¶55.15 RECESS—3:18 P.M.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PEASE, pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, declared the House in recess at 3 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m., until approximately 6 o'clock p.m.

¶55.16 AFTER RECESS—6 P.M.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, called the House to order.

¶55.17 H.R. 1251—UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, announced the unfinished business to

be the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1251) to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 8850 South 700 East, Sandy, Utah, as the "Noal Cushing Bateman Post Office Building".

The question being put,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill?

The vote was taken by electronic device.

It was decided in the { Yeas 362
affirmative { Nays 0

§55.18 [Roll No. 145]
YEAS—362

Aderholt	Dickey	Jackson (IL)
Allen	Dicks	Jackson-Lee (TX)
Andrews	Dingell	(TX)
Archer	Dixon	Jefferson
Armey	Doggett	Jenkins
Bachus	Dooley	John
Baird	Doolittle	Johnson (CT)
Baldacci	Doyle	Johnson, E. B.
Baldwin	Dreier	Johnson, Sam
Ballenger	Duncan	Jones (NC)
Barcia	Dunn	Jones (OH)
Barr	Edwards	Kanjorski
Barrett (NE)	Ehlers	Kaptur
Barrett (WI)	Ehrlich	Kennedy
Bartlett	Emerson	Kildee
Barton	Engel	Kilpatrick
Bateman	English	Kind (WI)
Bentsen	Eshoo	King (NY)
Bereuter	Etheridge	Kingston
Berkley	Evans	Kleczka
Berman	Everett	Klink
Biggert	Ewing	Knollenberg
Bilbray	Farr	Kolbe
Bilirakis	Fattah	Kucinich
Bishop	Filner	Kuykendall
Blagojevich	Fletcher	LaFalce
Biley	Foley	LaHood
Blumenauer	Forbes	Lampson
Blunt	Ford	Largent
Boehlert	Fossella	Larson
Boehner	Fowler	Latham
Bonilla	Franks (NJ)	LaTourette
Bonior	Frelinghuysen	Leach
Bono	Frost	Lee
Boswell	Gallegly	Levin
Boucher	Gekas	Lewis (CA)
Boyd	Gephardt	Lewis (GA)
Brady (PA)	Gibbons	Lewis (KY)
Brady (TX)	Gilchrest	Linder
Brady (TX)	Gillmor	LoBiondo
Brown (OH)	Gilman	Lofgren
Bryant	Goode	Lucas (KY)
Burton	Goodlatte	Lucas (OK)
Callahan	Goodling	Luther
Calvert	Gordon	Maloney (CT)
Camp	Goss	Markey
Campbell	Graham	Martinez
Canady	Granger	Mascara
Cannon	Green (TX)	Matsui
Capps	Green (WI)	McCarthy (MO)
Cardin	Greenwood	McCarthy (NY)
Castle	Gutknecht	McCollum
Chabot	Hall (OH)	McCrery
Chambliss	Hall (TX)	McDermott
Clayton	Hastings (FL)	McHugh
Clyburn	Hastings (WA)	McInnis
Coble	Hayes	McIntosh
Collins	Hayworth	McIntyre
Combust	Herger	McKeon
Condit	Hill (IN)	McNulty
Conyers	Hill (MT)	Meek (FL)
Cook	Hillery	Metcalf
Costello	Hilliard	Mica
Cox	Hobson	Millender-
Coyne	Hoefel	McDonald
Cramer	Hoekstra	Miller (FL)
Crane	Holden	Miller, Gary
Cubin	Holt	Miller, George
Cummings	Hooley	Minge
Cunningham	Horn	Mink
Danner	Hostettler	Mollohan
Davis (FL)	Houghton	Moore
Davis (IL)	Hoyer	Moran (KS)
Davis (VA)	Hulshof	Moran (VA)
Deal	Hunter	Murtha
DeFazio	Hutchinson	Myrick
DeGette	Hyde	Nadler
DeLay	Isakson	Napolitano
DeMint	Istook	Nethercutt
Deutsch		Ney
Diaz-Balart		

Northup	Sabo	Taylor (MS)
Nussle	Salmon	Taylor (NC)
Oberstar	Sandlin	Terry
Obey	Sanford	Thomas
Oliver	Sawyer	Thompson (CA)
Ose	Saxton	Thompson (MS)
Oxley	Schakowsky	Thornberry
Packard	Scott	Thune
Pastor	Sensenbrenner	Thurman
Paul	Serrano	Tiahrt
Pease	Sessions	Toomey
Peterson (MN)	Shadegg	Towns
Peterson (PA)	Shaw	Trafficant
Petri	Shays	Turner
Phelps	Sherman	Udall (CO)
Pickering	Sherwood	Udall (NM)
Pickett	Shimkus	Upton
Pitts	Shuster	Vento
Pombo	Simpson	Visclosky
Pomeroy	Sisisky	Walden
Portman	Skeen	Walsh
Price (NC)	Skeltton	Wamp
Pryce (OH)	Slaughter	Waters
Quinn	Smith (MD)	Watkins
Radanovich	Smith (NJ)	Watt (NC)
Rahall	Smith (WA)	Watts (OK)
Ramstad	Snyder	Waxman
Regula	Souder	Weldon (FL)
Reyes	Spence	Weldon (PA)
Reynolds	Spratt	Weller
Riley	Stark	Wexler
Rivers	Stearns	Whitfield
Roemer	Stenholm	Wicker
Rogan	Strickland	Wilson
Rogers	Stump	Wise
Rohrabacher	Stupak	Wolf
Ros-Lehtinen	Sununu	Woolsey
Roukema	Sweeney	Wu
Roybal-Allard	Talent	Wynn
Royce	Tancred	Young (AK)
Rush	Tanner	
Ryun (KS)	Tauscher	

It was decided in the { Yeas 368
affirmative { Nays 0

§55.20 [Roll No. 146]
YEAS—368

Abercrombie	Ehrlich	LaHood
Aderholt	Emerson	Lampson
Allen	Engel	Largent
Andrews	English	Larson
Archer	Eshoo	Latham
Armey	Etheridge	LaTourette
Bachus	Evans	Leach
Baird	Everett	Lee
Baldacci	Ewing	Levin
Baldwin	Farr	Lewis (CA)
Ballenger	Fattah	Lewis (GA)
Barcia	Filner	Lewis (KY)
Barr	Fletcher	Linder
Barrett (NE)	Foley	LoBiondo
Barrett (WI)	Forbes	Lofgren
Bartlett	Ford	Lucas (KY)
Barton	Fossella	Lucas (OK)
Bateman	Fowler	Luther
Bentsen	Franks (NJ)	Maloney (CT)
Bereuter	Frelinghuysen	Markey
Berkley	Frost	Martinez
Berman	Gallegly	Mascara
Biggert	Ganske	Matsui
Bilbray	Gekas	McCarthy (MO)
Bilirakis	Gephardt	McCarthy (NY)
Bishop	Gibbons	McCollum
Blagojevich	Gilchrest	McCrery
Biley	Gillmor	McDermott
Blumenauer	Gilman	McHugh
Blunt	Goode	McInnis
Boehlert	Goodlatte	McIntosh
Boehner	Goodling	McIntyre
Bonilla	Gordon	McKeon
Bonior	Goss	McKinney
Bono	Graham	McNulty
Boswell	Granger	Meek (FL)
Boucher	Green (TX)	Metcalf
Boyd	Green (WI)	Mica
Brady (PA)	Greenwood	Millender-
Brady (TX)	Gutknecht	McDonald
Brown (OH)	Hall (OH)	Miller (FL)
Bryant	Hall (TX)	Miller, Gary
Burton	Hastings (FL)	Miller, George
Callahan	Hastings (WA)	Minge
Calvert	Hayes	Mink
Camp	Hayworth	Mollohan
Campbell	Herger	Moore
Canady	Hill (IN)	Moran (KS)
Cannon	Hill (MT)	Moran (VA)
Capps	Hillery	Morella
Cardin	Hilliard	Murtha
Castle	Hobson	Myrick
Chabot	Hoefel	Nadler
Chambliss	Hoekstra	Napolitano
Clayton	Holden	Nethercutt
Clyburn	Holt	Ney
Coble	Hooley	Northup
Collins	Horn	Nussle
Combust	Hostettler	Oberstar
Condit	Houghton	Obey
Conyers	Hoyer	Oliver
Cook	Hulshof	Ose
Costello	Hunter	Oxley
Cox	Hutchinson	Packard
Coyne	Hyde	Pastor
Cramer	Inslee	Paul
Crane	Isakson	Pease
Cubin	Istook	Peterson (MN)
Cummings	Jackson (IL)	Peterson (PA)
Cunningham	Jackson-Lee (TX)	Petri
Danner	Jefferson	Phelps
Davis (FL)	Jenkins	Pickering
Davis (IL)	John	Pickett
Davis (VA)	Johnson (CT)	Pitts
Deal	Johnson, E. B.	Pombo
DeFazio	Johnson, Sam	Pomeroy
DeGette	Jones (NC)	Portman
DeLay	Jones (OH)	Price (NC)
DeMint	Kanjorski	Pryce (OH)
Deutsch	Kaptur	Quinn
Diaz-Balart	Kennedy	Radanovich
Dick	Kildee	Rahall
Dingell	Kilpatrick	Ramstad
Dixon	Kind (WI)	Rangel
Doggett	King (NY)	Regula
Dooley	Kingston	Reyes
Doolittle	Kleczka	Reynolds
Doyle	Klink	Riley
Dreier	Knollenberg	Rivers
Duncan	Kolbe	Roemer
Dunn	Kucinich	Rogan
Edwards	Kuykendall	Rogers
Ehlers	LaFalce	Rohrabacher
		Ros-Lehtinen

NOT VOTING—71

Abercrombie	Gonzalez	Owens
Ackerman	Gutierrez	Pallone
Baker	Hansen	Pascrell
Bass	Hefley	Payne
Becerra	Hinchee	Pelosi
Berry	Hinojosa	Porter
Borski	Kasich	Rangel
Brown (CA)	Kelly	Rodriguez
Brown (FL)	Lantos	Rothman
Burr	Lazio	Ryan (WI)
Buyer	Lipinski	Sanchez
Capuano	Lowey	Sanders
Carson	Maloney (NY)	Scarborough
Chenoweth	Manzullo	Schaffer
Clay	McGovern	Shows
Clement	McKinney	Smith (TX)
Coburn	Meehan	Stabenow
Cooksey	Meeks (NY)	Tauzin
Crowley	Menendez	Tierney
Delahunt	Moakley	Velazquez
DeLauro	Morella	Weiner
Frank (MA)	Neal	Weygand
Ganske	Norwood	Young (FL)
Gejdenson	Ortiz	

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.

§55.19 H.R. 100—UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PETRI, pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, announced the further unfinished business to be the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 100) to establish designations for United States Postal Service buildings in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The question being put,
Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill?

The vote was taken by electronic device.