Reno to please give to the Judiciary Committee as rapidly as possible the findings from the task force she has set up as to what we can do to make women's lives much more secure as they attend family planning clinics. People forget that women get all of their health care almost from family planning clinics during their reproductive years, and the domestic terrorism that has been going on is absolutely unacceptable.

The people saying that if women want this they have to go out and hire private armies to secure it is ridiculous. This Constitution guarantees equal protection of the law. It never says you get your constitutional rights only if you can hire an army to enforce it for you. That is what the Federal Government is there for.

So I certainly hope that we can get those recommendations back from our law enforcement community and we can move on it.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. EHLERS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. EHLERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. DELAURO addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HOYER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. CLAYTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. WISE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. WISE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GEPHARDT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

REPUBLICAN REFORMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HEFLEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to make a couple of observations this morning. Much has been said on the other side of the aisle about the fact that the Democrat Party was unable to offer amendments to the rules changes that were offered yesterday. That was true, but the truth is in the 200-year history of this Congress, when the opening day activities begin, the majority party submits a rules package to the Congress for their approval and there has never been any opportunity to amend that opening day document.

We this year, because we had campaigned for years and years in the minority to open up this House to openness and fairness, and accountability, had proposed a number of major changes to the rules of the House. What we did is we took the old rules of the 103d Congress which had been proposed year in and year out by the Democratic Party, and we brought those rules to the floor with certain changes. And there were eight significant changes that we wanted to make. They were reforms that the American people have been asking for this Congress to enact for many, many years, because we had failed to enact those reforms, this Congress had dropped in esteem in the eyes of the American people to something like 20 percent. And that is embarrassing to a Member like me that holds this body in the greatest esteem.

So we offered these changes, and we also offered, every Member, not just Democrats but Republicans and Democrats alike, the opportunity to vote on each one of those changes that we were going to make from the rules that we had been operating under the Democrat leadership all of those years. They were changes like reducing the committees and subcommittee reorganization, and staffs. We eliminated three full committees. We eliminated more than 20 subcommittees and that resulted in reducing this congressional bureaucracy by more than 600 jobs.

Why is that significant? We never like to put people out of work. But the truth is over the last several decades this Congress had just grown and grown and grown. The number of committees and subcommittees and staff had proliferated to a point that this is where gridlock really existed. A lot of press and the media used to say that gridlock was caused between Democrats and Republicans, because we Republicans controlled the White House and the Democrats controlled both bodies of this Congress.

That was not entirely true, and it became evident when the Democrats won control of the White House and President Clinton was elected. And then that was supposed to end all gridlock, but lo and behold, gridlock continued. So it was not Republicans and Democrats.

So then the media blamed it on conservatives and liberals. What it boiled down to it was not Republicans and Democrats, it was not liberals and conservatives, it was the bureaucracy of this Congress.

One good example of this is when President Clinton offered up last year his health care reform package, and lo and behold, that package was sent to three different committees in this Congress, referred jointly to three different committees and dozens and dozens of subcommittees.

What did that mean. That meant that bill was dead on arrival because of all of the little fiefdoms that had to begin to look at that piece of legislation.

We in this rules package yesterday made one great significant change to that and the Speaker of this House now is going to take any piece of legislation that comes before this body, if it is offered by the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. VOLKMER] or the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO], it is going to be assigned to one primary committee. That can be the Committee on Commerce, it could be the Committee on Rules, which I am the chairman of, but it will go to one primary committee. If there is another jurisdiction involved such as maybe a tax significance of some kind, then the Committee on Commerce will send that little portion over to Ways and Means with instructions to act on it and get it back. But it means that this bureaucracy, this gridlock is going to be broken because we have shrunk the size of this Congress. And incidentally, we are not through doing it yet; we are going to continue.

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But we also have set the example for what we intend to do to this Federal Government. There was an election back on November 8, and I am going to tell you that election really surprised this Member of Congress. I have been here suffering in the minority for 16 years, and I never in this world thought that I, JERRY SOLOMON, would