

think that the Speaker and the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means did not know about this special deal is absurd.

I am about to offer once again a concurrent resolution which would take out that provision. The Speaker of this Chamber has publicly stated that he supports taking it out. I have asked the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY]. I have followed the rules to this Chamber to get unanimous consent.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take up Concurrent Resolution 55, which would take out the tax provision provided for Mr. Murdoch.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Chair's guidelines, the gentleman is not recognized for that purpose. The gentleman's time as expired.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OFFER RESOLUTION REGARDING CONSTITUTIONALITY OF TARGETED TAX BENEFIT

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, under the rule IX, I rise to serve notice that I intend to offer the following resolution and read it into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized.

Mr. DEUTSCH. Resolution: To preserve the constitutional role of the House of Representatives to originate revenue measures.

Whereas, rule IX of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that questions of privileges shall arise whenever the rights of the House collectively are affected;

Whereas, under the precedents, customs, and traditions of the House, pursuant to rule IX, a question of privilege has arisen in cases involving the constitutional prerogatives of the House;

Whereas section 7 of article 1 of the Constitution require that revenue measures originate in the House of Representatives; and

Whereas the conference report on the bill, H.R. 831, contained a targeted tax benefit which was not contained in the bill as passed by the House of Representatives and which was not contained in the amendment of the Senate; Now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Comptroller General of the United States shall prepare and transmit, within 7 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution, a report to the House of Representatives containing the opinion of the Comptroller General on whether the addition of a targeted tax benefit by the conferees of the conference report on the bill, H.R. 831 (A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the deduction for the health insurance costs of self-employed individuals, to repeal the provision permitting nonrecognition of gain on sales and exchanges effectuating policies of the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes) violates the requirement of the U.S. Constitution that all revenue

measures originate in the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's notice will appear in the RECORD.

TAX CUTS AND DEFICIT REDUCTION FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

(Mr. MARTINI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, in sitting here this morning and listening to this debate, it reminds me of a debate less than 2 years ago in my home State of New Jersey. At that time, when the then-newly elected Governor Whitman spoke about tax cuts and cutting spending at the same time, then, as now, the same naysayers rose and complained and said it could not be done.

I am pleased to report today, Mr. Speaker, that less than 2 years into her term, she has accomplished two-thirds of her tax cut, with sufficient deficit reduction, and what we have witnessed in New Jersey is an increase in revenues, jobs, and a healthy economy.

I am confident that with the passage of today's bill and rule, we will accomplish the same things here for the Federal Government, and with the linkage and language that exists today in this tax bill, the linkage which assures that we will have sufficient deficit reduction with tax relief, I am even more confident that we can accomplish that goal.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1215, CONTRACT WITH AMERICA TAX RELIEF ACT OF 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 128, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 128

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1215) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strengthen the American family and create jobs. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text and shall not exceed four hours, with two hours equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means and two hours equally divided among and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority members of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute

consisting of the text of H.R. 1327, modified by the amendment printed in part 1 of the report of the Committee on rules accompanying this resolution. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except the further amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part 2 of the report, which may be offered only by Representative Gephardt of Missouri or his designee, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to amendment. All points of order against the further amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendment as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOODLATTE). The gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

(Mr. SOLOMON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks, and include extraneous material.)

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us is a rule providing for the consideration of the bill H.R. 1215, which is the Contract With America Tax Relief Act of 1995. The bill is appropriately entitled the Tax Fairness and Deficit Reduction Act of 1995 because it combines the tax relief provisions of H.R. 1215 with various spending reductions from other committees, both to offset the cost of the tax cuts and to begin us on a downward glide path toward a balanced budget. Have we not waited forever for this?

The rule provides for a Democrat substitute printed in part 2 of the Rules Committee report if offered by the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], the minority leader.

Finally, the rule provides for 1 motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, this rule represents the final major procedural hurdle to fulfilling our Contract With America and, oh, what an exciting, successful run this 100-day contract period has been. Did you ever think it would get here?

The bill this rule makes in order is certainly an appropriate closing to that contract. It addresses both the