

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

[Ms. KAPTUR 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 Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GOSS 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 New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. OWENS 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 Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MCINNIS 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 Guam [Mr. UNDERWOOD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

STREAMLINING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak today about a very momentous occasion.

The freshman class of the Republican Conference along with representatives of the Senate and the House leadership that were involved in an overview and a study of the Federal agencies of the United States have come out with their results under the leadership of the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. BROWNBACK] and the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. CHRYSLER] in evaluating for the first time just what the costs are of our Federal bureaucracies and how we can reduce those costs.

In a detailed summary today by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. CHRYSLER], we learned just how effective it can be to privatize, consolidate, and eliminate key functions that the Commerce Department has been undertaking up to this point; that a great deal of savings, \$7 billion, in fact, over the next few years could be made by privatizing many of the functions, con-

solidating others and eliminating others that actually duplicate what other Federal agencies are doing.

Mr. Speaker, this is part of an overall review by Members of this House concerned with the fiscal responsibility that we have to make sure that we hold the line on costs. Before us today and in the coming weeks and months, we will be looking not only at the Commerce Department but the functions of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Energy Department as well as the Education Department.

We can no longer be spending funds as if it is someone else's money. It is our constituents' money. They must get their money's worth.

The question we are asking for every Federal agency, for every department, for every bureau: Is this function best accomplished by the Government, or is it best accomplished by the private sector? If it is best accomplished by the private sector, it is our job, whether it be in the House or the Senate or the executive branch, the President, to in fact make sure that the private sector is where the function will rest. While the question remains, if it is going to be a governmental function, is it best handled by the Federal Government or the State government, county government, or local government?

We should not be duplicating services and programs best administered by governments closest to the people. We have seen this time and time again that the governments closest to the people oftentimes can get the efficiencies and the personal contact that the Federal agencies have not been able to effectuate on behalf of the people.

In addition to the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. BROWNBACK] and the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. CHRYSLER] discussing the future of the Commerce Department today, we had former Secretary Mosbacher who himself was Secretary of the Department of Commerce who in very strong terms has recommended that in fact the department which has grown, from his point of view the department be privatized, be consolidated and certain functions be eliminated.

Secretary Mosbacher was someone who was well-respected as a secretary and who has been a leader in the public and private sector.

He was joined there today in our conference by none other than Senator BOB DOLE, Senator FAIRCLOTH, and Senator ABRAHAM. Senators ABRAHAM and FAIRCLOTH are part of the Senate committee which has been reviewing the Commerce Department and how it can be downsized and, for that matter, privatized and certain functions eliminated. We believe that this is a thoughtful and very contemplative report that has been issued.

If members of the public are interested in getting copies, if they would just contact Mr. CHRYSLER's office at the U.S. House of Representatives here in Washington, DC. His report has been

exhaustive, it is over 3 months, it is part of the freshmen class and Republican leadership effort to in fact reexamine government to find out where we can make the savings, where we can take lessons from the private sector to in fact make sure that the services we are delivering are the ones the people want, that do not duplicate what State governments do but in fact provide the kinds of services that make a difference in people's lives.

We will be hearing forthcoming in the next few weeks the surveys and the reports and the analysis by those who have been involved with the other three departments I spoke of, HUD and its services, as well the Energy Department, and, in fact, the Education Department.

We heard today in the subcommittee headed by the gentleman from California [Mr. HORN] about how the Energy Department can be downsized as well. Many of the reasons for the creation of the Energy Department surrounded the shortage of energy two decades ago. We now have a better opportunity to provide the fuels we need, we can downsize according to two former secretaries of the Department of Energy who testified before our Committee on Government Reform and Oversight headed by the gentleman from California [Mr. HORN] today. The testimony was quite poignant about the savings that can be realized, about again the privatization that the Federal Government can have with the functions now being undertaken by the Department of Energy, and while there are many good public relations aspects of the Department of Energy, many of the functions have already been assumed by other agencies and in some ways duplicate some functions that the Department of Defense is now conducting.

We hope that these surveys on Energy, Education, HUD, and Commerce will give many of our citizens and hopefully many of our executives that work within the Federal agencies the enthusiasm to join us in this revolution to make our Federal agencies be more responsive, to reduce the waste, the abuse and the fraud that can exist in government, but to provide the funds for the services we really need. That way we will make the Government more responsive.

I know that the House, the Senate, and in fact the President for that matter will be very pleased to hear from constituents about services that the Federal Government is now trying to perform which may in fact duplicate services that are being performed by your State, your county, or local governments. It is not our intention to in fact duplicate those services but to make them outstanding.

At this time I would like to call on the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. TIAHRT] who is heading up the Energy Department task force. It has been his mission along with other Congressmen who whom he is working to analyze the