310) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve portability and continuity of health insurance coverage in the group and individual markets, to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery, to promote the use of medical savings accounts, to improve access to long-term care services and coverage to simplify the administration of health insurance, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3230) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3517) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and based realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3845) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes.

At noon, a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:


H.R. 2670. An act to provide for the release of the reversionary interest held by the United States in certain property located in the County of Iosco, Michigan.

H.R. 3367. An act to designate the Southern Piedmont Conservation Research Center located at 1420 Experimental Station Road in Watkinsville, Georgia, as the “J. Phil Campbell, Senior Natural Resource Conservation Center.”

H.R. 3464. An act to make a minor adjustment in the exterior boundary of the Devils Backbone Wilderness in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, to exclude a small parcel of land containing improvements.

At 12:34 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3448) to provide tax relief for small businesses, to protect jobs, to create opportunities, to increase the take home pay of workers, to amend the Portal-to-Portal Act of 1947 to provide for overtime compensation to employees who use employer owned vehicles, and to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage rate and to prevent job loss by providing flexibility to employers in analyzing the minimum wage rate and overtime requirements under that act.

At 2:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (S. 1316) to authorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the “Safe Drinking Water Act”), and for other purposes.

At 5:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 268. Concurrent resolution to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve portability and continuity of health insurance and coverage in group and individual markets, to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery, to promote the use of medical savings accounts, to improve access to long-term care services and coverage, to simplify the administration of health insurance, and for other purposes.

At 6:50 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3953. An act to combat terrorism.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 47. Concurrent resolution to provide for a Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

S. Con. Res. 48. Concurrent resolution authorizing the rotunda of the United States Capitol to be used on January 20, 1997, in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice-President-elect of the United States.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2739) to provide for a representational allowance for Members of the House of Representatives to make technical and conforming changes to sundry provisions of law in consequence of administrative reforms in the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

At 7:41 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 782. An act to amend title 18 of the United States Code to allow members of employee associations to represent their views before the United States Government.

S. 1316. An act to reauthorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act commonly known as the “Safe Drinking Water Act”), and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. Thurmond).

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3550. An act to designate the Federal building located at 250 Broadway in New York, New York, as the “Ronald H. Brown Federal Building.”

H.R. 3718. An act to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 611 North Florida Avenue in Tampa, Florida, as the “Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse.”

The message further announced that the House agrees to the following concurrent resolutions:

H. Con. Res. 207. Concurrent resolution approving certain regulations to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management relations with respect to covered employees, other than employees of the House of Representatives and employees of the Senate, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 123. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the official language of the Government of the United States; to Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2670. An act to provide for the release of the reversionary interest held by the United States in certain property located in the County of Iosco, Michigan; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 3367. An act to designate the Southern Piedmont Conservation Research Center located at 1420 Experimental Station Road in Watkinsville, Georgia, as the “J. Phil Campbell, Senior Natural Resource Conservation Center”; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition And Forestry.

H.R. 3464. An act to make a minor adjustment in the exterior boundary of the Devils Backbone Wilderness in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, to exclude a small parcel of land containing improvements; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
H.R. 3560. An act to designate the Federal building located at 290 Broadway in New York, New York, as the “Ronald H. Brown Federal Building”; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 3710. An act to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 611 North Florida Avenue in Tampa, Florida, as the “John S. H. Gilmore United States Courthouse”; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The following concurrent resolution was read and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 207. Concurrent resolution approving certain regulations to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management relations with respect to covered employees, other than employees of the House of Representatives and employees of the Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

The following bill, previously received from the House of Representatives for the concurrence of the Senate, was read the first and second time by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3735. An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to reauthorize the development fund for Africa under chapter 10 of title 22, United States Code, to modify the minimum allocation formula under the Federal-aid highway program, to provide reimbursement to each State with respect to which the highway users in the State paid into the Highway Trust Fund an amount in excess of the amount received by the State from the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BACHUS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. REID, Mr. DODD, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BURNS, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. CHAFEE, and Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. 2031. A bill to provide health plan protections for individuals with a mental illness; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mrs. KERRY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 2001. A bill to designate a portion of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSTON:

S. 2003. A bill to repeal requirements for unnecessary or obsolete reports from the Department of Energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BREAUX (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. COHEN):

S. 2004. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make certain changes to hospice care under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUSSELL:

S. 2005. A bill to invest in the future American workforce and to ensure that all Americans have access to higher education by providing tax relief for investment in a college education and by encouraging savings for college costs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. MURRAY, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. 2006. A bill to amend the Agricultural Market Transition Act to provide equitable treatment for barley producers so that 1996 contract payments to the producers are not reduced to a greater extent than the average percentage reduction in contract payments for other commodities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 2007. A bill to provide for aviation security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. PESSLER):

S. 2008. A bill to authorize the construction of the Klamath River Water Users District Rural Water System and authorize the appropriation of Federal dollars to assist the Klamath River Water Users District, a nonprofit corporation, in the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 2009. A bill to authorize the construction of the Perkins County Rural Water System and authorize the appropriation of Federal dollars to assist the Perkins County Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, in the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):