

reduces the administrative appropriation for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, OPIC, from \$32 million to \$20.8 million. OPIC uses taxpayer money to provide direct loans and risk insurance to Fortune 500 companies, who in turn are firing American workers.

One year ago, Congress and the President put an end to the six-decade floor beneath the aid to families with dependent children, or AFDC, a minimus program justified on the basis of simple humanity and basic morality, yet the corporations want to continue their AFDC program, Aid For Dependent Corporations. With their record profits and management salary and benefits, they have no such humanitarian or moral claim. The cost to American taxpayers and workers cannot be justified.

With the destabilizing effects of corporate downsizing on American workers and their families, we should not be providing incentives for America's corporate giants to invest abroad, taking advantage of low wage cost, lower standards, and often exploitative working conditions of Third World countries rather than reinvesting and creating jobs at home. We need to raise the developing country standards, not lower our own in an ever-increasing global economy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, on June 24, on rollcall 311, I am recorded as not voting. I recall vividly being in the Chamber. It was on the agricultural appropriations bill. I feel that I voted but I was inadvertently not recorded on that vote. Had I been recorded on that vote, I would have voted "aye."

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2266, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 198 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 198

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. 2266) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(1)(6) of rule XI, clause 7 of rule XXI, or section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under

the five-minute rule. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 or 6 of rule XXI are waived. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be fifteen minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COBLE). The gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. FROST], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate on this issue only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 198 is an open rule, as is customary for appropriations measures. The rule provides for 1 hour of general debate equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The rule waives points of order against consideration of the bill for failing to comply with 2(L)(6) of rule XI, the 3-day requirement for availability of the report. The rule also waives points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 7 of rule XXI, the 3-day requirement for availability of printed hearings on appropriations bills. Given the schedule we had before us and the bipartisan manner with which this bill has been brought forward to the House, I think these waivers are entirely reasonable and fair.

In addition, this rule waives points of order under section 306 of the Budget Act of 1974, which prohibits consideration of bills containing matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Budget. In the Committee on Rules we heard no objection from the Committee on the Budget on this point, so I do not believe this caused anybody any trouble either.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill which do not comply with clause 2 of rule XXI, prohibiting unauthorized appropriations and legislation on general appropriations bills, as well as clause 6 of rule XXI, prohib-

iting transfers of unobligated balances. Again, I wish to advise my colleagues that these waivers have been reviewed by the authorizing committee and we have heard no objection to them.

Mr. Speaker, as we have done frequently in the recent past to bring greater awareness to the membership of potential amendments, the rule grants priority in recognition of those Members who have caused their amendments to be preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The rule also provides that the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone votes on any amendment and that the chairman may reduce voting time on postponed questions to 5 minutes, provided that the voting time on the first in a series of questions is not less than 15 minutes, usual procedure. This is a useful time management tool, one that may be especially welcome during these last hectic days as we seek to conclude the historic budget agreement before the August work period.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with our without instructions.

That sounds like a fairly complicated rule, but actually it is a fairly straightforward open rule for appropriations that has gone through all the proper process. I believe it has been done in a bipartisan spirit.

I wish to commend the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG], the subcommittee chairman, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MURTHA], the ranking member, for the extraordinary work they have done in crafting this bill. We sometimes resort to large adjectives and hyperbole in describing work here. In this case, I definitely mean it. This is a very good work product, and an awful lot of hard work has been put into it.

These are lean budget times, as we as know. It is even more difficult to make tough choices about national security under such circumstances. When we find ourselves in occasions such as we have today, we find sometimes tensions and breakdown in communications. Things go wrong. But to the credit of both men, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. YOUNG] and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. MURTHA], that has not happened, and instead we have a bipartisan bill, as we should with something so important as our national security.

On a personal note, as chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, which authorizes programs within this appropriations subcommittee's jurisdiction, I am most grateful for the level of cooperation, attention, and support we have from the appropriators.

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The system of congressional oversight does work. It has worked very well in this area, and I am very proud of our effort.

Mr. Speaker, none of us wants to consider the possibility of threats to our