

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 1998 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 1997 amount, the 1998 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 1998 follow:

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	\$9,793,309,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1998	8,383,248,000
House bill, fiscal year 1998	9,183,000,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1998	9,182,900,000
Conference agreement, fiscal year 1998	9,183,248,000
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1997	-610,061,000
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1998	+800,000,000
House bill, fiscal year 1998	+248,000
Senate bill, fiscal year 1998	+348,000

RON PACKARD,
JOHN EDWARD PORTER,
DAVID L. HOBSON,
ROGER F. WICKER,
JACK KINGSTON,
MIKE PARKER,
TODD TIAHRT,
ZACH WAMP,
BOB LIVINGSTON,
W. G. (BILL) HEFNER,
JOHN W. OLVER,
CHET EDWARDS,
NORMAN D. DICKS,
STENY H. HOYER,
DAVID R. OBEY,

Managers on the Part of the House.

CONRAD BURNS,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
LAUCH FAIRCLOTH,
LARRY CRAIG,
TED STEVENS,
PATTY MURRAY,
HARRY REID,
DANIEL K. INOUE,
ROBERT C. BYRD,

Managers on the Part of the Senate.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAMP). Pursuant to clause 5 of rule 1, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on yesterday, Monday, September 8, 1997, I was detained in the district for official business. Because of the official business that I was handling in the 18th Congressional District, I missed two rollcall votes. The first was rollcall vote No. 369. Madam Speaker, if I had been present on the floor, I would have voted "no."

The second rollcall vote was No. 370 of which I was paired. However, I would

like my vote to be noted as "no" if I had been present.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GRANGER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, 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 North Carolina [Mr. JONES] is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

DR. PATRICIA WORTHY OYESHIKU: 1997 WESTERN REGIONAL EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

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

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Patricia Worthy Oyeshiku, a distinguished teacher from my hometown of San Diego who has made a positive impact on thousands of young lives in our community. I am proud to recognize Dr. Oyeshiku, an outstanding teacher at Morse High School in my congressional district where she has taught since 1971.

Mrs. O, as all her students call her, has just received the 1997 Western Regional Excellence in Teaching Award by the National Council of Negro Women. This excellence in teaching award is designed to raise awareness and involvement of African-American parents, educators and community leaders in meeting the educational needs of African-American youth.

The award recognizes exceptional public school teachers of African-American students who are living the philosophy and legacy of the National Council of Negro Women. Funded by the Shell Oil Company, the award ceremonies are an opportunity to generate greater public awareness and appreciation of excellence in teaching.

This is not the first time that Mrs. O has been recognized for her outstanding contribution to our young people. She was the California Teacher of the Year in 1981 and also a National Teacher of the Year finalist that year. She was honored as the Headliner in Education by the San Diego Press Club in 1981.

She serves on the California Academic Partnership Program Advisory Board, is an Evaluation Team Leader of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, has served as past Cochairman for all English Department Chairs in the San Diego Unified School District. She is a member of the Advisory Committee in Reading for the San Diego Unified Achievement

Goals Program and of the Advisory Council to an Interdisciplinary Approach to Multi-Cultural Education. She has lectured throughout the State of California on issues related to education.

Mrs. O has always been an outstanding role model for many years. She served in the Peace Corps in Brazil, received the John F. Kennedy Award as the outstanding Peace Corps volunteer back in 1966. She is a member of the Readathon Advisory Board of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

When I was a member of the San Diego School Board from 1979 to 1983 and its president, Mrs. O helped me a great deal to understand the needs of students throughout our school district and advised me very closely on matters of raising the achievement of all the students in our district. Like those before her who have received this high honor, Mrs. O has worked tirelessly for the benefit of every student in her classes. Her principal, Dr. Shirley Peterson, told me that she is honored on behalf of all the Morse High School Tigers to recognize Mrs. O for receiving this prestigious award and to commend her and applaud her efforts.

Madam Speaker, every student deserves the opportunity to succeed and every student deserves a teacher like Dr. Patricia Worthy Oyeshiku. I am pleased that her efforts are recognized with the 1997 Western Regional Excellence in Teaching Award.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART] is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

VOICING SYMPATHY FOR FAMILIES OF VICTIMS OF HAITIAN FERRY ACCIDENT

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

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my deepest sympathy for the families of the hundreds of persons who drowned before dawn on Monday of this week when a packed Haitian ferry—transporting hundreds more passengers than it was built for—tipped over. These people, who were merely going to work, died tragic and unnecessary deaths. This horrifying event is the second such event in Haiti in recent times.

In 1993 over 1,000 persons drowned in another crowded ferry off Haiti's coast. We should be outraged that such tragedy happens so close to home. But because Haiti is a nation of black people living in crippling poverty, and not an oil-rich country, the United States turns a blind eye. As a member of the Transportation Committee, let me say this: The reason for such tragedy in Haiti is simple—there is no decent or safe transportation infrastructure in Haiti due to lack of funding and necessary expertise. America has failed Haiti and