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House of Representatives

The House met at noon.

The Chaplain, the Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

May Your outstretched hand, O God, that lifts nations and peoples from the ordinary meanderings of the human spirit, touch our lives in such a way that we do extraordinary deeds to promote peace and good will, that we strive to champion justice and freedom and that we ever look to the needs of the homeless and those who are forgotten in our land. Make us instruments of healing when we are apart, make us agents of kindness where there is anger and make us good stewards of the blessings that have been the heritage of our land.

The Lord bless us and keep us,

The Lord make his face shine upon us, and be gracious unto us,

The Lord lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace. Amen.

□

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to Section 2 of House Concurrent Resolution 235, 106th Congress, the House will now proceed to organizational business.

□

CALL OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will utilize the electronic system to ascertain the presence of a quorum.

Members will record their presence by electronic device.

The call was taken by electronic device, and the following Members responded to their names:

[Roll No. 1]

Ackerman
Allen
Archer
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Bateman
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Bonilla
Bonior
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Burr
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chenoweth-Hage
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Conyers
Cook
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crowley
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (FL)
Davis (VA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frost
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Houghton
Hoyer
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Kanjorski
Kasich
Kelly
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kleczka
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Manzullo
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Minge
Moakley
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Ose
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Pease
Pelosi
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Rahall
Ramstad
Regula
Reyes
Reynolds
Riley
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sandlin
Sawyer
Saxton
Schakowsky
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Toomey
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Weygand
Wicker
Wolf
Wu
Wynn
Young (FL)

□ 1229

The SPEAKER. On this rollcall, 313 Members have recorded their presence by electronic device, a quorum.

Under the rule, further proceedings under the call are dispensed with.

□

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

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

Printed on recycled paper.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACCI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BALDACCI led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

□

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agreed to the following resolutions:

S. RES. 245

Whereas Floyd M. Riddick served the Senate with honor and distinction as its second Parliamentarian from 1965 to 1975;

Whereas Floyd M. Riddick created the Daily Digest of the Congressional Record and was its first editor from 1947 to 1951;

Whereas Floyd M. Riddick was Assistant Senate Parliamentarian from 1951 to 1964;

Whereas Floyd M. Riddick compiled thousands of Senate precedents into the official volume whose current edition bears his name;

Whereas Floyd M. Riddick served the Senate for more than 40 years;

Whereas Floyd M. Riddick upon his retirement as Senate Parliamentarian served as a consultant to the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration;

Whereas Floyd M. Riddick performed his Senate duties in an impartial and professional manner; and

Whereas Floyd M. Riddick was honored by the Senate with the title Parliamentarian Emeritus: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Floyd M. Riddick, Parliamentarian Emeritus of the United States Senate.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

S. RES. 246

Whereas Senator Curtis served with honor and distinction, for the State of Nebraska, in the House of Representatives from 1939 until his resignation in 1954 and in the Senate from 1955 to 1979;

Whereas Senator Curtis served his country for 40 years;

Whereas Senator Curtis stood for fiscal and social conservatism;

Whereas Senator Curtis regarded one of his biggest accomplishments as bringing flood control and irrigation to the Midwest;

Whereas Senator Curtis served as the Senate Republican Conference Chairman and ranking member on the Finance Committee during his last term in office;

Whereas Senator Curtis was admitted to the bar in 1930 and had a private law practice in Minden, Nebraska prior to his service in the House of Representatives; and

Whereas Senator Curtis served in Congress longer than any other Nebraskan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Carl Curtis, former member of the United States Senate.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Carl Curtis.

S. RES. 243

Resolved, That the Secretary inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

The message also announced that the Senate withdraws its request for a conference dated November 19, 1999 on the bill (S. 376) ''An Act to amend the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 to promote competition and privatization in satellite communications, and for other purposes,'' that the Senate disagrees to the amendment of the House to the above entitled bill and agrees to a conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. INOUYE, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106–79, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, after consultation with the Majority and Minority Leaders, announces the appointment of the following Senators to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, made during the sine die adjournment—

The Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS); and

The Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 105–277, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, who consulted with the Minority Leader of the House, announces the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the International Financial Institution Advisory Commission, made during the sine die adjournment—C. Fred Bergsten, of Virginia, vice Paul A. Volcker, of New York, resigned.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106–120, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the National Commission for the Review of the National Reconnaissance Office—

The Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD);

Martin Faga, of Virginia; and

William Schneider, Jr., of New York.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106–120, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, appoints the following individuals to serve as members of the National Commission for the Review of the National Reconnaissance Office—

The Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY); and

Lieutenant General Patrick Marshall Hughes, United States Army, Retired, of Virginia.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair would like to take this occasion to remind all Members and staff of the absolute prohibition contained in the last sentence of clause 5 of rule XVII against the use of any personal electronic office equipment, including cellular phones and computers, upon the floor of the House at any time.

The Chair requests all Members and staff wishing to receive or send cellular telephone messages to do so outside of the Chamber, and to deactivate, which means to turn off, any audible ring of cellular phones before entering the Chamber. To this end, the Chair insists upon the cooperation of all Members and staff and instructs the Sergeant at Arms, pursuant to Clause 3(a) of rule II, to enforce this prohibition.

□

□ 1230

COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 401) providing for a committee to notify the President of the assembly of the Congress, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 401

Resolved, That a committee of two Members be appointed by the Speaker on the part of the House of Representatives to join with a committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has assembled and Congress is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

NOTIFICATION OF THE SENATE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 402) to inform the Senate that a quorum of the House has assembled, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 402

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House inform the Senate that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with business.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

DAILY HOUR OF MEETING

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 403) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 403

Resolved, That unless otherwise ordered, before Monday, May 15, 2000, the hour of daily meeting of the House shall be 2 p.m. on Mondays; 11 a.m. on Tuesdays; and 10 a.m. on

all other days of the week; and from Monday, May 15, 2000, until the end of the second session, the hour of daily meeting of the House shall be noon on Mondays; 10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays; and 9 a.m. on all other days of the week.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS—STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 241) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will report the concurrent resolution.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 241

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the two Houses of Congress assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Thursday, January 27, 2000, at 9 p.m., for the purpose of receiving such communication as the President of the United States shall be pleased to make to them.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

HOUR OF MEETING ON MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2000

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

□

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, February 2, 2000.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

□

GRANTING MEMBERS OF HOUSE PRIVILEGE TO EXTEND REMARKS AND INCLUDE EXTRANEOUS MATERIAL IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF 106TH CONGRESS

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that for the second session of the 106th Congress, all Members be permitted to extend their remarks and to include extraneous material within the permitted limit in that section of the RECORD entitled ''Extensions of Remarks.''

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

□

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 2005, THE WORKPLACE GOODS JOB GROWTH AND COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 1999

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon a ''Dear Colleague'' letter will be sent to all Members informing them that the Committee on Rules is planning to meet the week of January 31 to grant a rule for the consideration of H.R. 2005, the ''Workplace Goods Jobs Growth and Competitiveness Act of 1999.''

The Committee on Rules may grant a rule which would require that amendments be preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. In this case, amendments must be preprinted prior to their consideration on the Floor.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are properly drafted, and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

□

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT, PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 401

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Without objection, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following as members of the committee on the part of the House to join a committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has been assembled and that Congress is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make:

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), and

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT).

There was no objection.

□

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to announce that pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, Speaker pro tempore MORELLA signed the following enrolled bills on Thursday, December 2, 1999:

H.R. 2466, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3419, to amend Title 49, United States Code, to establish the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3443, to amend Part E of Title IV of the Social Security Act to provide states with more funding and greater flexibility in carrying out programs designed to help children make the transition from foster care to self-sufficiency, and for other purposes;

And the following enrolled bill on Monday, December 6, 1999:

H.R. 1180, to amend the Social Security Act to expand the availability of health care coverage for working individuals with disabilities, to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency program in the Social Security Administration to provide such individuals with meaningful opportunities to work, and for other purposes.

□

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
Washington, DC, December 6, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 6, 1999 at 12:50 p.m.

That the Senate Agreed to conference report H.R. 1180

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

□

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 702(b) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (50 USC 401) and the order of the House of Thursday, November 18, 1999, the Speaker on Wednesday, January 12, 2000, appointed the following Member of the House to the National Commission for the Review of the National Reconnaissance Office:

Mr. GOSS, Florida.

And from private life:

Mr. Eli S. Jacobs, New York.

Mr. Larry D. Cox, Maryland.

□

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF COMMISSION ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a) of the Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering and Technology Development Act (42 USC 1885a) and the order of the House of Thursday, November 18, 1999, the

Speaker on Monday, January 3, 2000, appointed the following individual on the part of the House to the Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering and Technology Development to fill the existing vacancy thereon:

Mr. Charles E. Vela, Maryland.

□

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 15, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC

DEAR DENNIS: Enclosed please find copies of resolutions approved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on November 10, 1999, in accordance with 40 U.S.C. § 606.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely,

BUD SHUSTER,
Chairman.

There was no objection.

□

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 14, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: The Higher Education Amendments of 1998 created the Web-Based Education Commission (the ''Commission'') to conduct a thorough study to assess the educational software available in retail markets for secondary and postsecondary students. The Commission will conduct the study by utilizing existing research, holding public hearings and facilitating information exchange within and between the Federal Government, State Governments and educators. As a result of amendments to the Web-Based Education Commission Act included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY2000, the Chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives is to appoint a Member from the House to the Commission and the Chairman of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate is to appoint a Member from the Senate to the Commission.

Pursuant to Section 852(b) of Public Law 105–244 (as amended by Public Law 106–113), I hereby appoint the Honorable Johnny Isakson to the Web-Based Education Commission.

Sincerely,

BILL GOODLING,
Chairman.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PRODUCTION OPERATIONS MANAGER, OFFICE OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Gary Denick, Production Operations Manager, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 11, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena *ad testificandum* and *duces tecum* issued by the Court for the District of Columbia in the case of *United States* v. *Armfield*, Case No. M13209–99.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

GARY DENICK,
Production Operations Manager.

□

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PRODUCTION OPERATIONS MANAGER, OFFICE OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Gary Denick, Production Operations Manager, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 18, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with two subpoenas *ad testificandum* and *duces tecum* issued by the Superior Court for the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoenas is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

GARY DENICK,
Production Operations Manager.

□

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable HENRY A. WAXMAN, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 4, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that my district office has been served with a deposition subpoena for business records issued by the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, in the case of *McIntosh* v. *Department of Justice*, Case No. BC218586.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

HENRY A. WAXMAN,
Member of Congress.ab

□

COMMUNICATION FROM THE ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Kay Ford, Associate Administrator, Office of Human Resources:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 8, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House that the Custodian of Records, Office of Human Resources has received a subpoena for documents issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

KAY FORD,
Associate Administrator,
Office of Human Resources.

□

COMMUNICATION FROM THE FINANCIAL COUNSELING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF FINANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Jacqueline Aamot, Financial Counseling Director, Office of Finance:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 8, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House that the Custodian of Records, Office of Finance has received a subpoena for documents issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

JACQUELINE AAMOT,
Financial Counseling Director,
Office of Finance.

□

COMMUNICATION FROM COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST, HOUSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Margaret Mitchell, Communications Specialist, House Information Resources:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 8, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House that the Custodian of Records, House Information Resources has received a subpoena for documents issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

MARGARET MITCHELL,
Communications Specialist,
House Information Resources.

□

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to make an announcement.

After consultation with the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent and approval, the Chair announces that tonight when the two Houses meet in joint session to hear an address by the President of the United States, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those on his left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the Floor of the House who does not have the privileges of the Floor of the House.

Due to the large attendance which is anticipated, the Chair feels that the rule regarding the privilege of the Floor must be strictly adhered to.

Children of Members will not be permitted on the Floor, and the cooperation of all Members is requested.

□

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will recognize Members for special orders until 5:30 p.m., at which time the Chair will declare the House in recess.

The Chair will entertain 1-minute requests.

□

CITIZENSHIP FOR ELIAN GONZALEZ

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bill that was introduced on Monday which would bestow citizenship upon Elian Gonzalez, a 6-year-old Cuban boy who was miraculously rescued off of Florida's shores on Thanksgiving Day.

This citizenship bill does not advocate for a particular outcome. It merely ensures due process. It ensures that a court of law will be afforded the opportunity to hear and evaluate all facts and arguments in the case; that it will hear testimony from Elian himself, who says he wants to stay here and who says he wants to be a citizen; that it will evaluate the statements of a child psychologist and other experts who present a comprehensive assessment of what is in Elian's best interest.

Mr. Speaker, in essence, this bill merely ensures that Elian's rights under the law are upheld and that his rights do not continue to be violated and circumvented by bureaucrats at INS.

Citizenship would also protect Elian in the event that he is required to return to Cuba against his wishes and one day seeks to return to our United States.

Mr. Speaker, for Elian's welfare and for the sake of justice, fairness and equality, I ask our colleagues to support the citizenship bill.

□

CONGRESS SHOULD NOT FORCE CITIZENSHIP ON ELIAN GONZALEZ

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

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, Elian Gonzalez will be the only person in the history of this country to have citizenship and/or residency shoved down his throat. He has not asked for it and the guardian who we accept is speaking for him in Cuba has rejected it.

In the meantime, there are 2 million folks awaiting citizenship in this country who followed the law and will not get it on that date. There are 9 million undocumented aliens who will not receive residency on that date. The arrogance of all of this is that for the first time ever we are going back on a promise. We have said for years that we are not trying to hurt the Cuban people, but rather the Cuban government.

□ 1245

From a desire to hurt the Cuban government, we now question grandparents' love for their grandchild, after all, they are only tools of the Communist government, and fathers' love for their child.

I have spent 3 days with the grandmothers. We all know grannies. They do not seem to me to be crying Communist tears or Socialist tears. They are crying the tears of grandparents who want Elian back. They show me pictures of his room, of his toys. They said to me, ''We cannot provide him trips to Disneyland or Disney World. We cannot provide him an electric car, but we love him, and we want him back.''

□

DO NOT PLAY POLITICS WITH EMERGENCY FUEL ASSISTANCE

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

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, President Clinton released $45 million in emergency fuel assistance to 11 States to help low-income families and senior citizens pay their utility bills, States that have been unusually hit by cold weather.

Mr. Speaker, I noted that New York, New Hampshire, and nine other States got these funds, but Minnesota got nothing. A State like Minnesota which has experienced very, very harsh winter temperatures, below zero windchills on a regular basis, where fuel prices are 30 percent higher than last year has got nothing.

As Senator WELLSTONE said yesterday, there is no reason to put families in New York or New Hampshire above families in Minnesota. I certainly agree with the good Senator from Minnesota. We are running out of money. And I have nothing against my friends in New York and New Hampshire, and perhaps their requests are warranted. But believe me, it is unfair, unconscionable, and unreasonable not to grant Minnesota the necessary funds.

Ninety thousand Minnesota families in need are going to be at risk if we do not get this emergency fuel assistance. I urge the White House not to play politics with the emergency fuel assistance.

□

SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO GIVE ELIAN GONZALEZ RESIDENT ALIEN STATUS

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

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today, and actually in comment of other colleagues as well, of supporting legislation that would give Elian Gonzalez at least resident alien status in the United States of America.

I do this because it is a Solomonesque answer to a tragic situation. But let me also just stop and reflect, and hopefully not just my colleagues but people throughout the country will listen, that if a mother left a country that had slavery and died on the way to freedom and her child was able to reach freedom and then the owner of the father told the father to ask for the boy back, we would be suspect of what the father said.

Unfortunately, the reality of Cuba today is exactly that. It is a country where the leader does, in fact, kill people indiscriminately, does in fact restrict freedom of speech, religion, and travel. If it were not so, what I just said, the father would be here.

The obvious reason the father is not here today or not here 2 months ago is because Castro is afraid that if he comes, he will not leave. I ask my colleagues to support this effort.

ASKING THE PRESIDENT TO PUT ASIDE PARTISAN DIFFERENCES AND WORK WITH CONGRESS ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, we all know President Clinton is coming to this Chamber tonight to deliver his last State of the Union address. As we all await with great anticipation what he will say and what he will propose, I would like to mention a few items I hope he will emphasize.

The House Republican leadership wrote to the President this week asking that he discuss three specific initiatives. I would like to echo their call to the President to, first, join us in protecting 100 percent of the Social Security Trust Fund; second, detail how he will pay off the public debt by 2013; and, third, sign meaningful and responsible tax fairness into law and do not propose higher taxes or more burdensome user fees.

If the President can address these items and resist the temptation to propose new spending programs that increase the size and scope of the Federal Government, then his speech will be well received by Congress.

Tonight is a major opportunity for cooperation, not confrontation. I hope the President will work with us this year on behalf of the American people and put aside partisan differences.

□

TAKE UP UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF 1999 AND PREPARE FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES FOR 21ST CENTURY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, over the past 7 years, we have made significant progress in creating jobs, creating a budget surplus, and expanding opportunity. We now have the historic and unique opportunity to prepare for the future and to bolster American families.

Let us strengthen Social Security and Medicare for future generations, including a prescription drug benefit for all Medicare beneficiaries.

Let us provide tax cuts that eliminate the marriage penalty, help working and middle class families afford health care, child care, and a college education, enact HMO reform that puts medical decisions in the hands of the doctors and patients, and allows people to hold their HMOs accountable.

Let us improve our schools, modernize our classrooms, reduce class size, and increase discipline and standards in our school. Let us pass gun safety reforms and keep guns out of the hands of kids and criminals.

These are sensible proposals. They have bipartisan support. Let us take up the unfinished business of 1999, make good decisions for the long term, and prepare our families and our communities for the 21st Century.

□

FCC VIOLATES FREEDOM OF RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, it turns out that during the Christmas holiday season, when not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse, the Federal Communications Commission violated America's freedom of religious expression.

You see, the FCC on December 29, last year, concluded that in order for noncommercial educational television stations to retain their licenses, stations must devote 50 percent of their programming hours to shows that are educational and cultural. However, the FCC decided that ''statements of personally held religious views and beliefs'' could not qualify as educational or cultural.

Thus, broadcasts of religious sermons, simply the sermon, and church services, according to the FCC, would have no educational or cultural significance and would not count towards the 50 percent obligation.

As a result, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the ''Religious Broadcasting Freedom Act,'' which reverses this decision.

□

ACT AS AMERICANS WITH FAMILY VALUES; RETURN ELIAN GONZALEZ TO HIS FATHER AND GRANDMOTHERS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I do not have a prepared text this morning, and I would really rather be discussing the issues that this Congress needs to address for the American people, school construction, the idea of a Patients' Bill of Rights, and opportunities for Americans who have less than many of us. But having spent over 2 days with the grandmothers of Elian Gonzalez, today I come simply to plead to America and to plead to this Congress.

As the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims, I simply ask, as a mother and as a parent, let us all put the angst of divisiveness aside and let us rule not with our political interests but with our hearts and ask ourselves, if it was us, our child, our grandchild, how would we want a Nation, a government to respond.

Mr. Speaker, we should not move on the citizenship legislation or the permanent residency. We should act as Americans who believe in family values. Return Elian to his grandmothers and his father.

A REAL BALANCED BUDGET MEANS DEBT WILL NOT INCREASE

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is important that the American people understand tonight, when we will hear the President brag about a balanced budget and paying off the debt, what is really involved. For the American people to understand that, the press has got to start understanding what a balanced budget is and the fact that our total debt of this country, the public debt of this country, is going up every year.

The suggestion is that we simply increase our borrowing from Social Security to reduce the so-called Wall Street debt. The current debt to this country, as defined in law, is $5.72 trillion. It is important that everybody understand we are not going to have a real balanced budget until the total debt of this country does not continue to increase.

□

SUPPORT RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING FREEDOM ACT

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

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is a cold day in Washington, but the chill is on religious broadcasters. A word to the Members: If one has a religious broadcaster or people who listen to religious broadcasters in one's district, their rights have been compromised. The rights are less than they were in 1999 because of an FCC decision on the Cornerstone license swap in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Since this order, traditional religious programming can no longer be counted toward the 50 percent educational programming requirement that must be met by those who would hold noncommercial television licenses.

Basically, the FCC wants less religion and more of what it considers educational on the noncommercial airways. The majority of commissioners apparently want religious broadcasters to look more like PBS.

My office has received hundreds of e-mails and telephone calls from people who want to protest this decision. I know many other Members have been contacted, and I want to invite all the Members to cosponsor the bill, the Religious Broadcasting Freedom Act. Join me and over 50 cosponsors already to protest the FCC's efforts to limit religious programming.

□

RHETORIC DOES NOT ALWAYS SQUARE WITH REALITY

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the aforementioned legislation by my friend from Ohio and urge other Members to join us in this effort.

Mr. Speaker, there is a gulf between the rhetoric of Washington and the reality of everyday life in America. Not only are religious broadcasters under attack from this administration and its political appointees, also over our break we heard the Occupational Safety and Health Administration was going to come into one's home if one had a personal work station, if one was a telecommuter.

Mr. Speaker, it is in that spirit that I bring quite literally hope to the House floor today, the Home Office Protection Enhancement Act. Because even though the administration has backed away, now we know that rhetoric does not square with the reality.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would call on our President tonight to make sure that his words match his actions and to ensure that the only snow job in Washington was the blizzard visited upon the East Coast earlier this week.

□

RETURN ELIAN GONZALEZ TO HIS FATHER

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

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I believe Elian Gonzalez should be allowed to return to his father. If it would be the reverse and we would have our child in Cuba, we would expect no difference.

Our responsibility is to look beyond the political issues. It is unfortunate that this issue has been politicized. It is unfortunate that it has gotten to this point.

If we look at our own present law, we would have allowed that individual to go to the father and to his grandmothers. The extended family that is there, even within the courts, should not have any jurisdiction. I feel very strongly that Americans should also be supportive of this. It is unfortunate that it has been tainted with politics and that that youngster has been used in politics.

I have heard also that, why is not the father here? Well, it is my understanding, I know that the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO) has advised him not to come to the United States because they were concerned that, legally, he would have been detained here and a subpoena would also have forced him to be here. He also has another family.

We need to be conscientious. If we look at family values, we need to return Elian Gonzalez back to Cuba.

□

OPPOSITION TO GRANTING PERMANENT NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS TO CHINA

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include therein extraneous material.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my grave concern in granting China permanent normal trade relations. A recent Zogby International poll shows that the American people overwhelmingly oppose granting permanent trade relations with China until human rights and religious freedom improve.

Sixty-eight percent of the Republicans, 70 percent of the Democrats, 65 percent of Independents insist on better human rights and religious freedom within China before establishing permanent MFN. Every age group, every gender, every income, every political spectrum insists on human rights.

The American people know about the Chinese government's continued persecution of the Protestant House Church. They know the Chinese Government has seven Catholic Bishops in jail. They know that the Chinese has 10 Catholic priests in prison.

□ 1300

They know they have plundered Tibet, and they know they are persecuting the Muslims.

I personally believe if the Congress votes to grant permanent normal trade relations, or MFN, for China, Congress will be on the wrong side of the American people and I believe on the wrong side of history.

Mr. Speaker, I provide for the RECORD documents in support of my comments.

39. Should the US have a permanent open market with China and admit the country to the global trade system or should the US insist on better human rights and freedom of religion in China before we establish a permanent open market?

	Total		Region								Party						Primary						Union			
			East		South		CentGrLk		West		Democrat		Republican		Independent		Democrat		Republican		Cannot Vote		Yes		No/NS	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Open Market	212	21.2	61	24.4	54	20.8	70	21.9	27	15.7	81	19.4	77	20.3	54	26.6	101	20.3	91	20.7	20	31.3	47	23.2	165	20.7
Human Rights	686	68.5	168	67.2	172	66.4	217	67.8	129	75.0	294	70.3	259	68.2	133	65.5	346	69.5	303	69.0	37	57.8	139	68.5	547	68.5
NS	103	10.3	21	8.4	33	12.7	33	10.3	16	9.3	43	10.3	44	11.6	16	7.9	51	10.2	45	10.3	7	10.9	17	8.4	86	10.8
Total	1001	100.0	250	100.0	259	100.0	320	100.0	172	100.0	418	100.0	380	100.0	203	100.0	498	100.0	439	100.0	64	100.0	203	100.0	798	100.0

	US Direction						Personal Finances								Age Group–B									
	Right Direction		Wrong Track		NS		Better		Worse		Same		NS		18–24		25–34		35–54		55–69		70+	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Open Market	148	25.4	58	16.7	6	8.3	101	24.2	27	19.4	83	18.9	1	20.0	6	17.1	23	23.5	92	22.0	62	23.0	28	16.2
Human Rights	390	67.0	250	72.0	46	63.9	283	67.9	95	68.3	307	69.8	1	20.0	25	71.4	65	66.3	297	70.9	179	66.3	118	67.1
NS	44	7.6	39	11.2	20	27.8	33	7.9	17	12.2	50	11.4	3	60.0	4	11.4	10	10.2	30	7.2	29	10.7	29	16.8
Total	582	100.0	347	100.0	72	100.0	417	100.0	139	100.0	440	100.0	5	100.0	35	100.0	98	100.0	419	100.0	270	100.0	173	100.0

39. Should the US have a permanent open market with China and admit the country to the global trade system or should the US insist on better human rights and freedom of religion in China before we establish a permanent open market?

	Total		Born Again				Ideology										Gender				Work Outside			
			Yes		No/NS		Prog/VLiberal		Liberal		Moderate		Conservative		Very Cons		NS		Male		Female		Yes		No/NS	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Open Market	212	21.2	37	15.7	57	23.8	15	25.0	42	24.0	85	23.4	54	17.3	12	19.4	3	11.1	108	28.7	104	16.6	59	17.2	45	16.0
Human Rights	686	68.5	177	75.0	147	61.5	42	70.0	117	66.9	247	68.0	222	70.9	44	71.0	14	51.9	236	62.8	450	72.0	247	71.8	203	72.2
NS	103	10.3	22	9.3	35	14.6	3	5.0	16	9.1	31	8.5	37	11.8	6	9.7	10	37.0	32	8.5	71	11.4	38	11.0	33	11.7
Total	1001	100.0	236	100.0	239	100.0	60	100.0	175	100.0	363	100.0	313	100.0	62	100.0	27	100.0	376	100.0	625	100.0	344	100.0	281	100.0

39. Should the US have a permanent open market with China and admit the country to the global trade system or should the US insist on better human rights and freedom of religion in China before we establish a permanent open market?

	Total		Age Group								Education								Race									
			18–29		30–49		50–64		65+		<High School		High School		Some College		College +		White		Hispanic		Afr Amer		Asian		Other	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Open Market	212	21.2	17	23.9	82	22.0	60	20.5	52	20.2	4	12.9	23	10.9	63	19.2	122	28.4	184	21.2	5	29.4	14	18.7	4	50.0	4	12.5
Human Rights	686	68.5	46	64.8	258	69.2	213	72.7	165	64.0	23	74.2	159	75.4	231	70.4	272	63.3	593	68.5	11	64.7	53	70.7	3	37.5	24	75.0
NS	103	10.3	8	11.3	33	8.8	20	6.8	41	15.9	4	12.9	29	13.7	34	10.4	36	8.4	89	10.3	1	5.9	8	10.7	1	12.5	4	12.5
Total	1001	100	71	100	373	100	293	100	258	100	31	100	211	100	328	100	430	100	866	100	17	100	75	100	8	100	32	100

	Religion										Income											
	Catholic		Protestant		Jewish		Muslim		Other		<$15,000		$15–24,999		$25–34,999		$35–49,999		$50–74,999		$75,000+	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Open Market	52	21.7	94	19.8	10	38.5	1	33.3	55	21.6	5	7.4	27	22.5	27	20.1	32	18.0	46	23.1	60	28.2
Human Rights	174	72.5	324	68.2	15	57.7	2	66.7	170	66.7	54	79.4	79	65.8	89	66.4	137	77.0	139	69.8	131	61.5
NS	14	5.8	57	12.0	1	3.8	.....	.....	30	11.8	9	13.2	14	11.7	18	13.4	9	5.1	14	7.0	22	10.3
Total	240	100.0	475	100.0	26	100.0	3	100.0	255	100.0	68	100.0	120	100.0	134	100.0	178	100.0	199	100.0	213	100.0

[From the Cardinal Kung Foundation, Updated: December 8, 1999]

PRISONERS OF RELIGIOUS CONSCIENCE FOR THE UNDERGROUND ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CHINA

The following is a list of persons known to the Cardinal Kung Foundation to be Roman Catholics who are confined for their religious belief and religious activity. This list is by no means complete, because of the difficulties in obtaining details. Accordingly, many cases of arrest were not reported here.

A: Murdered:

PRIESTS

1. Father Yan Weiping, Yixian, Hebei Arrested May 13, 1999 and found dead on a street in Beijing. He was 33. (Our press release July 5, 1999.)

B. Now in Prison or Under House Arrest or Under Survellance or In Hiding:

BISHOPS

1. Bishop AN Shuxin, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested in March, 1996. (Our press release June 17, 1996.)

2. Bishop FAN Zhongliang, S.J., Shanghai—under strict surveillance.

3. Bishop HAN Dingsiang, Yong Nian, Hebei—Arrested and released on and off. We believe that he is now in hiding.

4. Bishop HAN Jingtao, Jilin—Prevented by police from exercising his ministry. (Fides press release February 13, 1998.)

5. Bishop JIA Zhiguo, Bishop of Zhengding, Hebei—Arrested August 15, 1999. (Our press release November 2, 1999.)

6. Bishop Li Side, Tianjin, Hebei—Confined to the top of a mountain.

7. Bishop Lin Xili, Bishop of Wenzhou, Zhejiang—Arrested September 7, 1999. (Our press release September 13, 1999.)

8. Bishop Liu Guandong, Yixian, Hebei—Paralyzed, but still under strict surveillance.

9. Bishop Shi Enxiang, Yixian, Hebei—In hiding.

10. Bishop Su Zhimin, Baoding, Hebei—Rearrested October 8, 1997 after 17 months in hiding. (Our press release October 11, 1997.) He has disappeared. His whereabouts are unknown.

11. Bishop Xie Shiguang, Mindong, Fujian—Arrested mid-October 1999. Whereabouts unknown. (Zenit Release, Nov. 10, 1999.)

12. Bishop Zeng Jingmu, Yu Jiang, Jiangxi—Arrested November 22, 1995. Sentenced to 3 years. (Our press release November 26, 1995.) He was released from jail May 9, 1998 and is now under house arrest with 24-hours armed guards watching over him. (Our press release May 10, 1998.)

13. Bishop Zhang Weizhu, Xianxian, Hebei—Arrested May 31, 1998. (Our press release June 5, 1998.) Current status unknown.

NOTE: Notwithstanding the above list, almost all underground bishops are either in jail, under house arrest, hiding with or without arrest warrant, in labor-camp, or under severe surveillance.

PRIESTS

1. Father Guangyao, Shanghai—Arrested August 16, 1999 after he treated his parishioners a simple noodle dish symbolizing longevity for Cardinal Kung's 98th birthday. His whereabouts are unknown. (Our press release September 13, 1999.)

2. Father Cui Xingang, Dong Lu, Hebei—Arrested in March 1996. (Our press release June 17, 1996.)

3. Father Kong Buocum, Wenzhou, Zhejiang—Arrested about October 20, 1999. Whereabouts and current status unknown. (Zenit Release, Nov. 10, 1999.)

4. Father Lin Rengui, Pingtan County, Fujian—Arrested Christmas 1997. Sentence and current status unknown.

5. Father Lu Genyou, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested about November 3, 1999. Whereabouts and current status unknown.

6. Father Ma Qingyuan, Baoding, Hebei—Being pursued for capture. (Our press release February 20, 1998.) He is now in hiding.

7. Father Pei Junchao, Youtong, Hebei—Arrested January 1999. (Our press release January 31, 1999.) Current status unknown.

8. Father Shao Amin, Wenzhou, Zhejiang—Arrested September 5, 1999. Other details unknown. (Our press release September 13, 1999.)

9. Father Shi Wende, Yixian Diocese, Hebei—Arrested and released many times since March 14, 1998. (Our press release April 15, 1998.) He has been tortured severely and is now in bad health.

10. Father Wang Chengi—Arrested December 1996. Sentence 3 years. Now at Shandong Jining Reeducation Camp. Source: Mr. John Kamm.

11. Father Wang Chengzhi, Wenzhou, Zhejiang—Arrested September 3, 1999. Other details unknown. (Our press release September 13, 1999.)

12. Father Wei Jingkun, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested August 15, 1998. (Our press release October 13, 1998.) Current status unknown.

13. Father Xiao Shixiang—Arrested June 1996. Sentenced to 3 years. Now at Tianjin #5 prison. Source: Mr. John Kamm.

LAITY

1. Mr. An Xianliang, An Jia Zhuang Village, Xushui County, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested in 1996. Sentenced to three years.

2. Mr. Di Yanlong—An Jia Zhuang Village, Xushui County, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested in 1996. Sentenced to three years.

3. Mr. Guo Baochen—Sentenced to 2 years. Now at Shandong Changle Reeducation Camp. Source: Mr. John Kamm. Current status unknown.

4. Ms. Huang Guanghua, Chong Ren County, Jianxi—Arrested April 1995. (Our press release May 1, 1995.) Current status unknown.

5. Mr. Huang Tengzong, Chong Ren County, Jiangxi—Arrested August 1995. (Our press release Sept. 11, 1995.) Current status unknown.

6. Mr. Jia Futian—Yangzhuang Village, Hengshui City, Hebei—Arrested in 1996. Sentenced to three years.

7. Mr. Li Lianshu—Arrested Christmas 1995. Sentenced to four years. Now at Shandong #1 Reeducation Camp. Source: Mr. John Kamm.

8. Mr. Li Quibo—Arrested Easter 1996. Sentenced to three years. Now at Shangdong #1 Reeducation Camp. Source: Mr. John Kamm.

9. Mr. Li Shengxin—An Guo City, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested in 1996. Sentenced to three years.

10. Mr. Li Xin, Heng Shui, Hebei—Arrested in 1996. Sentenced to three years.

11. Mr. Pan Kunming, Yu Jiang, Jiangxi—Arrested April 1995. Sentenced to 5 years. (Our press release July 19, 1995.)

12. Ms. Rao Yanping, Yu Jiang, Jiangxi—Arrested April 1995. Sentenced to 4 years. (Our press release July 19, 1995.)

13. Mr. Wang Chengqun, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested 1996. Sentenced to three years. Current status unknown.

14. Mr. Wang Tongsheng—Quan Kun Village, Qing Yuan County, Baoding, Hebei—In hiding. Being hunted by the police.

15. Mr. Wang Yungang—Arrested Christmas 1996. Sentenced to 2 years at Shandong Changle Reeducation Camp. Source: Mr. John Kamm. Current status unknown.

16. Ms. Xie Suqian, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested August 15, 1998. (Our press release October 13, 1998.) Current status unknown.

17. Mr. Xiong Bangyin, Xiagangcum Village, Sunfangzhen Township, Chongren County, Jiangxi—Arrested June 26, 1999, prosecuted August 13, 1999 and found guilty. (Our press release November 2, 1999.) Sentenced to one year—AFP release Nov. 2, 1999.

18. Mr. Yang Guosun, Xiagangcum Village, Sunfangzhen Township, Chongren County, Jiangxi—Arrested June 26, 1999, prosecuted August 13, 1999 and found guilty. (Our press release November 2, 1999.) Sentenced to one year—AFP release Nov. 2, 1999.

19. Mr. Yang, Jijiang, Xiagangcum Village, Sunfangzhen Township, Chongren County, Jiangxi—Arrested June 26, 1999, prosecuted August 13, 1999 and found guilty. (Our press release November 2, 1999.) Sentenced to one year—AFP release Nov. 2, 1999.

20. Mr. Yang Laixing, Xiagangcum Village, Sunfangzhen Township, Chongren County, Jiangxi—Arrested June 26, 1999, prosecuted August 13, 1999 and found guilty. (Our press release November 2, 1999.) Sentenced to one year—AFP release Nov. 2, 1999.

21. Mr. Yang Liulang, Xiagangcum Village, Sunfangzhen Township, Chongren County, Jiangxi—Arrested June 26, 1999, prosecuted August 13, 1999 and found guilty. (Our press release November 2, 1999.) Sentenced to one year—AFP release Nov. 2, 1999.

22. Mr. Yang Wenhui, Xiagangcum Village, Sunfangzhen Township, Chongren County, Jiangxi—Arrested June 26, 1999, prosecuted

August 13, 1999 and found guilty. (Our press release November 2, 1999.) Sentenced to one year—AFP release Nov. 2, 1999.

23. Mr. Yao Jinqiu—An Jia Zhuang Village, Xushui County, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested 1996. Sentenced to three years.

24. Ms. Yu Qixiang, Yu Jiang, Jiangxi—Arrested April 1995. Sentenced to 2 years. (Our press release July 19, 1995.) Current status unknown.

25. Mr. Yu Shuishen, Yu Jiang, Jiangxi—Arrested April 1995. Sentenced to 3 years. (Our press release July 19, 1995.) Current status unknown.

26. Mr. Zhou Quanxin, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested May 23, 1999. (Our press release July 5, 1999.) Current status unknown.

27. Mr. Zhou Zhenpeng, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested May 23, 1999. (Our press release July 5, 1999.) Current status unknown.

28. Mr. Zhou Zhenmin, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested May 23, 1999. (Our press release July 5, 1999.) Current status unknown.

29. Mr. Zhou Zhenquan, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested May 23, 1999. (Our press release July 5, 1999.) Current status unknown.

30. Mr. Zhou Zimin, Xiagangcum Village, Sunfangzhen Township, Chongren County, Jiangxi—Arrested June 26, 1999, prosecuted August 13, 1999 and found guilty. (Our press release November 2, 1999.) Sentenced to one year—AFP release Nov. 2, 1999.

C. Previously imprisoned, now released:

1. Father Chen HeKun, Quantou, Hebei—Arrested January 1999 (Our press release January 31, 1999.) Now released.

2. Father Chu Guangyao, Shanghai—Arrested August 3, 1999, and released August 5, 1999. Arrested again August 16. Now released.

3. Ms. Gao Shuping, Lin Chuan City, Jiangxi—Arrested Nov. 1996. Now released.

4. Ms. Gao Shuyin, Chongren County, Jiangxi—Arrested April, 1995. Now released.

5. Ms. Guo, Jiancheng—An Jia Zhuang Village, Xushui County, Baoding, Hebei—Arrested in 1996. Now released.

6. Father Hu Duo, Baoding, Hebei—arrested Spring, 1997. Sentenced to 3 years. Now released.

7. Father Liao Haiqing, Yu Jiang, Jiangxi—Arrested in August, 1995. (Our press release October 9, 1995.) Now released.

8. Father Lu Genyou, Baoding, Hebei—arrested April 5, 1998, released around April 20, 1998. (Our press release April 15, 1998 and our press release May 10, 1998.) Now released.

9. Father Wang Quanjun, Baoding, Hebei—arrested September, 1997. (Fides press release, December, 1997.) Now released.

Summary of victims (murdered recently or suffering for their faith)

Murdered recently	1
Bishops	13
Priests	13
Laity	30
Previously imprisoned, now released	9
Total	63

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TRIBUTE TO MARDI MONTGOMERY, KENTUCKY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an outstanding educator in central Kentucky and one of the exemplary teachers of this Nation. As a freshman and senior honors English teacher at Boyle County High School, this teacher of 6 years has added a curriculum that instills compassion and understanding in her students.

Recently, the Kentucky Department of Education selected this distinguished teacher, Mardi Montgomery, as Kentucky Teacher of the Year for 2000. She was nominated for this honor by her fellow teachers and selected, along with others, from a list of very deserving semifinalists.

Mrs. Montgomery sought to integrate her students with the community by forming the Boyle County Breakfast Book Club in which students and local community members, from grandmothers to business leaders, critically read and discuss books. This creative approach has led her students to a deeper appreciation for literature and learning.

Today, I join our central Kentucky community in recognizing a remarkable teacher for making a significant contribution in the lives of her students and to education. I find it most fitting that Mrs. Mardi Montgomery receive this prestigious award.

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BIG SPENDING HURTS TAXPAYERS IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, we learned a painful lesson in the not so distant past; that when the big spenders in Washington get their way, the taxpayers get the shaft. When the budget is drained to fund all sorts of pork barrel projects and special interest boondoggles, there is nothing left for those who pay the freight: Working American families.

Not only do our working folks fail to get a long overdue and well-deserved tax break, we now learn that the Federal Reserve Board is watching Congress very closely to see if it intends to engage in more reckless spending. If it does, the Fed is apparently ready to raise interest rates to head off any inflation that excessive government spending may bring about.

So who is the big loser? Again, my colleagues may have guessed it, the American taxpayer. Not only is the taxpayer denied a tax reduction, because there is no money left in the bank, but he or she will also pay higher interest rates on mortgages, on car payments, on education loans, on credits cards, et cetera.

Mr. Speaker, this year let us tell the President and his free-spending friends in this body that enough is enough. We are not going to let them pick the taxpayers' pockets any more.

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REPUBLICAN PARTY IS ON NATIONWIDE HOLY WAR TO REDUCE TAXES

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

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I have a message for the American people. Let me be perfectly clear: Despite the extraordinary case of amnesia on the part of some about what got us here, amnesia on a scale that is rivaled only by that of Lorena Bobbitt and O.J. Simpson, I wish to state to all Americans that the Republican Party of Ronald Reagan is on a nationwide jihad for lower taxes.

That is right, Mr. Speaker. The Republican Party is on a holy war on behalf of hard-pressed working people whose take-home pay has stagnated. We do not stand for tax cuts tomorrow. We do not stand for tax cuts at some theoretical future date that is conditional on the politicians' good behavior. We do not stand for targeted tax cuts, which we all know is a code for no one is going to get one. We do not stand for some groups and not others. We do not stand for tax relief only for those who are represented by special interest groups.

No, Mr. Speaker, we are for lower taxes for all working Americans, and we want lower taxes now.

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U.N. PROSTITUTION PROTOCOL

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, imagine a woman filled with hope accepting a new job in a big city. Promises of freedom from manual labor and better income have lured her away from her family. When she meets her new boss, she is crushed. She is given tight clothes to wear, condoms for her customers, she is beaten, raped, locked in a trailer and forced to have sex with whoever walks in the trailer.

Unfortunately, this happens every day in some parts of Asia, Africa, Latin America and, yes, even the United States.

Many of us were surprised to learn that the administration's Interagency Council on Women has apparently been supporting a move to alter the U.N. Convention on Transnational Organized Crime to accept so-called ''voluntary'' prostitution. They want to adopt what is called the Netherland's definition of prostitution, which excludes anything that cannot be proven to be coerced.

Mr. Speaker, this would make it virtually impossible to prosecute sex traffickers in nations adopting this protocol. We should oppose the forced Europeanization of America by United Nations' bureaucrats using the failed social policies of the Netherlands.

I hope it is not true, and I hope this will be stopped.

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LISTEN CAREFULLY TO PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS TONIGHT

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton is going to give his State of the Union message this evening and I am going to listen very, very intently.

I think when we look back at this administration we can see a very successful administration. Prosperity is at an all-time high, our economy is growing, we are about to set a record in terms of the economy, and that has been done by this President and this administration.

The important things that the President will stress tonight are going to be very, very important to listen to, but I think preserving Social Security and Medicare is something that the American people want and that this administration will do.

A prescription drug program. I know our senior citizens on Medicare need help with prescription drugs.

Targeted tax cuts. We do not need a risky tax scheme that give tax breaks for the rich. We need targeted tax cuts to help middle America, to help the middle class, to help people so that they can pay for college tuition for their sons and daughters.

My daughter is going to college, and families are struggling to try to send their children to college. So the President's proposal to have tax deductions or a tax credit for college students is certainly something that we need.

Gun control, campaign finance reform, a patient's bill of rights, these are the things that Congress should pass this year.

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SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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SUPPORT CITIZENSHIP FOR ELIAN GONZALEZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress who represents the Congressional District of Florida where Elian Gonzalez currently resides, as the mother of two young daughters, and as someone who knows all too well about Castro's brutal tyrannical regime, I ask my colleagues today to support the bill which was introduced by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM) on Monday which would bestow citizenship upon 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez.

As a Cuban refugee and as a naturalized American myself, I know what an honor it is to be a United States citizen. Elian's mother Elizabeth drowned in her voyage to freedom, but she had a dying wish, to have her 5-year-old son reach the shores of freedom. To honor that deathbed declaration, we are promoting this legislation to grant citizenship to Elian, which will also have the practical effect of taking the case out of INS hands and placing it where it properly belongs, as a delicate custody issue to be handled by Florida State courts.

Some will argue that Congress should not be involved because it is a custody issue. And those of us who support the bill agree, this is a custody issue and as such it should have been allowed to play out in a court of law. As in every other custody case, a hearing should be held. The parents and the relatives should be afforded an opportunity to testify. Medical experts should render their assessment. Other experts should be granted a forum to present testimony about the conditions in which the child would live and be subjected to in Cuba. And, most importantly, the child would be able to state freely and openly for the record what his desires are and with whom he wishes to live.

However, INS has prevented this orderly process from taking place. It has made a mockery of our laws by making a unilateral summary judgment to return Elian to Cuba and, in so doing, have defamed the principles of justice, of fairness, and of equality under the law which are really the fabric of our society.

Originally, on December 1, 1999, INS quoted to the family, to the attorneys and to the press, ''Although it had no role in the family custody decision, we have discussed this case with State of Florida officials who have confirmed that the issue of legal custody must be decided by its State court. However, Elian will remain in the U.S. while the issues surrounding his custody are resolved.''

However, this was not to be. INS soon recanted this statement, decided to apply Cuban law instead to this case, and ordered that the boy be returned to Cuba without any semblance of our due process. Faced with this reality, my colleagues and I were compelled to act to protect and uphold Elian's rights as a person under the law; rights not only guaranteed by our constitution and legal system but rights protected by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Article 6 of this convention states, ''Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.'' Article 7 states, ''All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.'' And Article 14, ''Everyone has the rights to seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.''

This last provision is particularly telling, as INS, in denying Elian his rights and defending only the father's rights under Cuban law, rejected various asylum applications for Elian and unilaterally withdrew his application for admission into the U.S.

There are those who will ignore these arguments and discount the fact that the U.S. and international law requires that the custody issue be resolved in a court of law and simplifies this case to a question of merely returning the boy to his father. But appropriate steps have not been taken to ascertain whether this in fact is in the boy's best interests, and that should be the guiding standard.

To those advocates who say, no, let us not advocate for that, I ask if they are aware that Castro's laws require that children and youth must prepare themselves for the defense of the country, honoring the principles of proletariat internationalism and combat solidarity? That is a quote from their code. It requires that children under the age of 11 to work long hours in farm labor camps. It mandates society and State work for the efficient protection of youth, and this is a quote, against all influences contrary to their Communist formation.

And the latter one applies even to parents. Just ask Gladys Ibarra-Lugo, age 15, who has for years been denied access to her parents because of their support of Democratic principles and human rights. Their support was contrary to the dictums of the Communist State. Gladys' parents are Amnesty International prisoners of conscience.

I wonder if those who simply say forget the court hearing have really read the testimony of Francisco Garcia. This testimony was included in a report distributed by the United Nations NGO Group for the Convention of the Rights of the Child. Francisco tells of his experience as a child in Cuba, and I commend it to my colleagues.

For Elian's present and future, for the sake of justice, liberty, and equality, I ask my colleagues to support the citizenship bill.

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PROS AND CONS OF CUBAN EMBARGO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to discuss my recent visit to Cuba. I just returned last evening from a 6-day trip to Cuba where I had the opportunity to meet with the various ministries. I met not only with the minister of health but I went into the neighborhoods, into the neighborhood clinics. I talked with the doctors there, I talked with the patients there, and I got a good understanding of the kind of health care that Cubans are involved with based on health care being one of the national priorities.

I also went to the University of Medicine, where they are training young doctors throughout the region, and I was absolutely amazed at the fact that they have 5,000 young people who are there from all over the Caribbean who are being trained as doctors. It amazes me, because here in the United States it is just so difficult to get young people of color into the universities so

that they can be trained as doctors. But they are showing that it can be done there. Over 60,000 doctors have been produced in Cuba.

Having said that, my real reason for being there was to follow up on a commitment that I made 11 months ago when I visited Cuba.

□ 1315

When I visited Cuba 11 months ago to basically try and get a handle on the pros and cons of the embargo, I discovered that we have a waiver on medical supplies and equipment. However, not one aspirin had been sold in Cuba. I talked with people to try and understand why this was true.

We finally came back and we got together with representatives from the Treasury Department, from Commerce and from the State Department to try and understand the rules and the laws as it related to the waiver. We finally all got on one track and we got with those individuals who have been trying for years to get a medical trade show going in Cuba, and we finally got it on track and that trade show did open. I was there to help cut the ribbon, along with the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and many of our representative of our business community.

I was very pleased that we had almost 300 representatives there from various businesses in the United States representing over 90 of our largest businesses who were delighted to be there to show their medical supplies and equipment. We had companies like ADM. We had companies like Eli Lilly, Procter Gamble, Pfizer, many of the huge companies of America with goods and products that they want to share, that they want to sell.

I think it is foolhardy for the American business community to allow China and Germany and Canada and all of these countries to be in Cuba selling their goods, selling their supplies, and we are just 90 miles from Cuba.

They have many, many needs. They want to do business with us, particularly with medical supplies and equipment. They have trained the professionals. They have trained the doctors. They have children who desperately need the supplies, the state-of-the-art equipment. I think that our American firms should continue to seek these opportunities and to be there.

Now, having said all of that, none of this happens in a vacuum. As you know, the center of debate in Cuba and it appears in the United States is Elian Gonzalez, this young child who is in Miami, who one side is saying he should be kept there, he should be given citizenship, he should not be allowed to return to Cuba to his father.

Well, I met with his father while I was there, Juan Gonzalez. There is no logical argument, none that anybody can make, that should take this child from his father. This child lost his mother on the sea. This child should not be deprived of his father. This child should be returned to Cuba immediately.

This political spectacle that is being created in Miami is unconscionable. There is no reason a little child should be a political pawn. This is not about whether or not we like Castro. This is not whether or not we agree with the revolution, that we are one of the Batista people, that we do not believe in what is going on there. This is about parental rights. This is about the right of a father to have their child and to raise their child.

By all accounts, this man is a good father; he had a great relationship with his child. Let us stop the political madness. Let us allow little Elian to go home.

□

TAX RELIEF FOR FAMILIES: ELIMINATION OF MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, it is great to be back here for another session of good and hard work.

I represent a pretty diverse district. I represent the south side of Chicago, the south suburbs, and Cook and Will counties, a lot of industrial as well as farm communities. And even though this district that I represent is so very, very diverse, I find there is a common message; and that is the folks back home want us to come here, Republicans and Democrats, and work together to find solutions to the challenges that we face.

That is why I am so proud that over the last 5 years we have done so many things we were told we could not do. We balanced the budget for the first time in 28 years. We gave a middle-class tax cut for the first time in 16 years. We reformed our welfare system for the first time in a generation. And a great accomplishment just this past year was we stopped the raid on Social Security for the first time in 30 years.

That is progress on our agenda, and we are continuing to move forward to find better ways to help find solutions.

Our agenda is pretty simple, paying down the public national debt, saving Social Security and Medicare, helping our local schools. And we also want to bring fairness to the Tax Code. That is one of the issues I want to talk about today. Because I believe that as we work to bring fairness to the Tax Code, particularly to middle-class working families, that we should focus first on the most unfair consequence of our current complicated Tax Code and that is the marriage tax penalty which is suffered by almost 21 million married, working couples.

Let me explain what the marriage tax penalty is. Under our current Tax Code, if they are married, both husband and wife are working, they pay more in taxes than they do if they stay single.

Let me give this example, a marriage tax penalty example: A machinist and a schoolteacher, middle-class working folks in Joliet, Illinois, with a combined income of $63,000 pay more. And here is how they do it. If they have a machinist making $31,500, he is in the 15 percent tax bracket. If he marries a schoolteacher with an identical income of $31,500, under our Tax Code they file jointly. Their combined income of $63,000 pushes them into the 28 percent tax bracket. And for this machinist and schoolteacher, they pay the average marriage tax penalty of almost $1,400 more just because they are married under our Tax Code.

Now, if they chose to live together instead of getting married, they would have saved that $1,400. Our Tax Code punishes them if they choose to get married. That is just wrong.

It is a pretty fair question: Is it right, is it fair that, under our Tax Code, this machinist and schoolteacher in Joliet, Illinois, pay more in higher taxes?

Let me give my colleagues another example here of two schoolteachers also of Joliet, Illinois, Michelle and Shad Hallihan. They were just married in the last couple of years, a wonderful young couple. I have had a chance to sit down and talk with them. And, of course, I have a nice wedding photo.

The point is that Shad has taught a little longer than Michelle, and he makes $38,000 a year. His wife Michelle makes $23,500. Because they chose to get married, to live together in holy matrimony, they suffer the marriage tax penalty because their combined income when they file jointly pushes them into the 28 percent tax bracket.

For them, for Michelle and Shad Hallihan in Joliet, Illinois, two schoolteachers, they pay almost a thousand dollars more. Michelle has pointed out to me, since they have just had a baby, that is almost 3,000 diapers that $1,000 of marriage tax penalty would pay for in that family if they were allowed to keep it.

Now, the Republicans in this Congress believe that eliminating the marriage tax penalty should be a priority; and we believe that, in this era of budget surpluses, when the Federal Government is taking in more than we have been spending, that we should give some of it back. We want to focus that on bringing fairness to the Tax Code.

This past year we sent to the President legislation that would have wiped out the marriage tax penalty for people like Michelle and Shad Hallihan. Unfortunately, the President and Vice President GORE chose to veto that legislation because they wanted to spend the money on new Government programs.

My colleagues, should it not be a priority to help people like Michelle and Shad Hallihan, married working couples who work hard and who are unfairly treated by our Tax Code?

We have legislation today which now has 230 cosponsors, a bipartisan majority of this House, that is cosponsoring the Marriage Tax Elimination Act,

H.R. 6, cosponsored by myself and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. DANNER) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MCINTOSH) as well as 230 Members of the House.

That is why it is so important, we want to bring fairness to the Tax Code. That is why I am so pleased that the leadership of this House, led by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT), the Speaker of the House, has made a decision to move a stand-alone piece of legislation, a stand-alone bill, which wipes out the marriage tax penalty for the vast majority of those who suffer. In the next few weeks, the Speaker intends to bring that legislation to the floor. That is good news as we work to bring fairness to the Tax Code by eliminating the marriage tax penalty.

I was just informed earlier today that the President in his State of the Union Speech tonight is going to discuss eliminating the marriage tax penalty. That is good news. Because it is time to make it a bipartisan effort. And while the President and Vice President GORE vetoed the legislation last year, he is now coming our way. I am very pleased. Let us make it a bipartisan effort. Let us wipe out the marriage tax penalty and let us send the President a stand-alone bill and let us bring fairness to the Tax Code.

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MARSHA PYLE MARTIN: A LEADER FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during the short interlude we call life, we sometimes have the rare and memorable occasion to meet someone who exudes such a sense of positive accomplishment that we are forever changed just from that encounter.

I had that special experience when I met and heard Marsha Pyle Martin, who served as chair of the Farm Credit Administration Board. She appeared before our Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies of the House Committee on Appropriations to thoughtfully and persuasively argue that we need to be concerned about the financial condition of America's farmers and the future of agriculture in rural America.

I am sad to tell our colleagues that Ms. Martin passed from this life to her blessed rewards on January 9. This afternoon she is being celebrated in a memorial service at the Farm Credit Administration Offices in McLean, Virginia.

She is a woman who deserves this celebration, for she has helped so many by her caring for America's farmers and her advocacy on their behalf and for building a sound farm credit system in this country.

Marsha Pyle Martin was the first woman who ever served as chair of the Farm Credit Administration. While that was a first for FCA, it was far from that for her. After all, she was the first woman senior executive in the Farm Credit System when she served as vice president of the Farm Credit Bank of Texas. She also was the first woman to serve as a director of the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation.

I remember most vividly when she appeared before our subcommittee. Her dedication, her passion, her knowledge both overwhelmed and imposed her sense of purpose on our committee. She wanted efficient and competitive credit markets for borrowers, and it showed. She recognized the changing face of agriculture in America and wanted to both embrace and support the changes that are necessary for America's farmers to continue as the finest in the world.

Those who know agriculture know that the availability of credit at reasonable terms is critical, vital to success; and those who knew Marsha Pyle Martin knew that such a system was both her goal and her mandate to those who worked for and with her.

To her husband Britt, to her daughters Michelle and K.B. and her two grandchildren, I can only extend our deepest sympathies for the unexpected loss of their loved one. But may they be comforted and inspired by the fact that each and every day she tried to make a positive difference for people. Each and every day positive change was her goal and her accomplishment.

If only more people shared her vision, her energy, her commitment, just imagine how much better a place this world would be.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in thanking Marsha Pyle Martin for her lifetime of contribution. May her eternal reward be no less than triple what she gave in this world. For, because of her, many people live each day as a better one than they might have were it not for her.

May I ask the House, in her memory, for a moment of silence.

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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.)

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DEMOCRATIC AGENDA FOR PROGRESS IN 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, let me say that I am glad to be back.

I think my colleagues know and I am sure most of the American people or many of the American people know that the House of Representatives has been in recess, has not had a session, for approximately 2 months since we adopted the budget at the end of November for the next fiscal year.

Tonight, of course, the President will give his State of the Union Address, which represents really a new opportunity. This is the second session of the 2-year Congress. And when we come back today, we know that although we perhaps only have about 10 months before the House adjourns and the Congress adjourns there is this 10-month period when we can pass legislation and get things done that will positively impact the American people.

Of course, the President will give his speech tonight and we will not know exactly what is in it until we hear it from him. But we know that he is going to talk about how the state of the Union is strong, how the country is strong economically, record new surpluses, overall crime rate down 25 percent, welfare rolls deeply cut.

A lot of progress has been made under President Clinton, certainly in the 6 or 7 years now that he has been in office.

□ 1330

But part of the problem particularly in the last year is that many times when the President suggests a positive agenda, progressive agenda to the American people as he did in his last State of the Union address, the Congress, which of course is dominated by the Republican majority, the Republicans are in the majority, resists his recommendations and do not pass the legislation or provide the resources so that we can move his agenda. And so I hope that this year that will not be the case again.

If we look at what happened last year in the Congress, particularly in the House, there really was a resistance and most of the President's agenda was not adopted. I hope that is not the case this year. I hope that this year the Republican majority in the Congress will go along with the President's programs. If they differ slightly, fine, we can come to accommodations, but let us try to work together to come up with an agenda to pass legislation that helps the people and that moves this country quickly in a positive way into the next millennium.

I wanted to talk a little bit about President Clinton and the Democratic congressional leaders' agenda for a few minutes if I could. What we want to do is to get the job done, if you will, for the American people in the year 2000. I am going to talk about a few specific points. Basically our Democratic agenda for progress in 2000 includes, first, repairing, renovating and renewing our schools. Second, cutting taxes while maintaining fiscal discipline because obviously we want to maintain the balanced budget that we have had and the surpluses that we continue to generate. Third, the Democrats want to modernize Medicare and include a voluntary prescription drug benefit.

I would say, Mr. Speaker, during the 2 months that we were not in session I had many forums, some forums with senior citizens in my district, some with just people in general, constituents in general in my district. The number one concern that they had was with regard to health care. If it was seniors, they were concerned about the lack of access and the affordability of prescription drugs. Generally people expressed concern about the need for reform of HMOs because of the difficulties that they were having with HMOs in getting the health care that they thought that they needed.

Then, of course, I had a lot of my constituents who simply have no health insurance whatsoever and want to see what we are going to do as a Congress and as a country to provide more options for health insurance. But let me continue with the Democratic agenda. I am going to go back to some of those health care issues a little later. The Democrats' agenda for progress in 2000 also includes strengthening Social Security. The President in his last State of the Union address stressed that whatever surplus was created as a result of the Balanced Budget Act, that that primarily, overwhelmingly, should go to shore up Social Security.

Now, again when I had my forums in the district over the last couple of months, many of the seniors expressed concern over Social Security. I explained to them that Social Security was not bankrupt and that Social Security was sound but that the problem would come in, say, another 20 years, in another generation and that we needed to prepare now to make sure that for the next generation, Social Security was there. The President says the easiest way to do that is to certainly put a down payment down for the future by using the surplus primarily that is generated over the next 5 or 10 years.

The other very important, perhaps the most important part of our Democratic agenda for progress in 2000 is to enact a real Patients' Bill of Rights. Some of my colleagues know that for the last 2 years, I have been pushing for this. We have yet to have a conference on the Patients' Bill of Rights, on HMO reform. I was pleased to see, I believe, today that the Republican leadership indicated that they were going to have a conference between the House and the Senate to try to work out differences on the Patients' Bill of Rights, on HMO reform, at some time next week or very soon. I applaud them for that but I think it is crucial that we have a good, strong Patients' Bill of Rights and I will insist on that as one of the conferees, because this is an important issue and if all we do is put together some makeshift reform that really does not do anything, some Band-Aid approach, the American people are going to hold us responsible and say, ''You didn't get the job done,'' so we need a strong Patients' Bill of Rights.

The other important part of our Democratic agenda for progress in 2000 is to raise the minimum wage. We all know that the economy is strong. We know that this economy has generated hundreds of thousands of new jobs. But the bottom line is there are a lot of people who work and who basically do not make enough money, even though they are working full time or have two or three jobs, because their salaries, their wages are so low. We need to enact legislation that was primarily sponsored here in the House by our minority whip the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) to raise the minimum wage. Finally, we also need to pass legislation to fight hate crimes, another important part of our agenda.

What I would like to do, Mr. Speaker, if I could, is to go through some of these items individually. I see my colleague here from Texas. I do not know if he wants to join me now. If he would like to I would certainly yield to him.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I want to just congratulate the gentleman for outlining the items. Especially I know he has been in the forefront when it comes to health care. I know one of the concerns that a lot of Members had and in conjunction also with the constituencies that are being serviced by managed care systems, that a lot of them are concerned that they do not have any appeal process. I know that we have been trying to push forward in allowing that opportunity that when individuals are denied access to health care, that they can be able to appeal. One of their concerns is that we will have too many lawsuits. I am here to attest to the fact that in Texas we have allowed for that appeal process to exist and we have not had the number of lawsuits and we have had the accountability on the part of the managed care systems to be a little more responsive. I think that the Patients' Bill of Rights needs to go through and we are hoping that it will. I am here just to thank the gentleman for that.

I know that he has also been in the forefront when it comes to prescription coverage. In the area of prescription coverage, it just does not make any sense now that in Medicaid for indigents we provide prescription coverage, yet when it comes to our senior citizens we do not. That to me just does not make any sense whatsoever, at a time when we know that we want to take care of our senior citizens, that prescription coverage is also a very instrumental effort and tool to take care of illness. As we all well know, when Medicare started, that was not the case. We did not use prescriptions as much as we do now for taking care of our patients. That is something I think that now is really important and we have got to make sure that that happens.

I am also very pleased that we have moved and are beginning to take care of our uninsured. We have the largest number of uninsured in Texas and it is unfortunate that Texas also was unwilling to provide any local resources. Most of the resources for the CHIPS program, the children's program, are resources that were provided through the tobacco lawsuits. There is a real need for local communities to come forward, also, and help out in that process as the Federal Government, the President has moved forward in providing the uninsured children of this country an opportunity to have access to health care. As our leader in this area, I want to thank the gentleman for allowing me the opportunity just to say a few words and to thank him for his efforts. I look forward to working with him during this particular Congress.

Mr. PALLONE. I want to thank the gentleman for his kind words. I am really pleased that he is here because I think that his State really is a model for so many of the things that we have been talking about here on the House floor over the last year with regard to these health care concerns. If I could just comment on some of the things the gentleman said, with regard to the Patients' Bill of Rights, in many ways the Texas legislation, which has been in force now for a couple of years, is really a model for the Federal legislation, not only in terms of the basic rights that are provided to patients to protect them against the abuses of HMOs but also in terms of the liability provisions. It is kind of interesting, because I noticed that the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), who for a long time has resisted, as long as I can remember he has been resisting the idea that there would be any ability to sue under Federal law, sue the HMO, finally came around today to saying that he would provide some limited ability to sue. Again, we are going to call him to task on that, to make sure that the Federal legislation that comes up here does provide the ability to sue as a last resort. I am sure that to some extent, though, he was probably saying that because of the Texas experience, because if we remember, when the Texas legislature was considering something like the Patients' Bill of Rights, there was tremendous opposition to any ability to sue on the grounds that the litigation would be forever and everybody would be suing the HMOs. I remember back in November when we last convened, at that point I think in the 2-year life of the Texas legislation, they had only had two people file lawsuits, maybe two or three people file lawsuits. That just totally denigrates the idea that somehow by allowing lawsuits against the HMOs that we are going to have all this litigation.

But the other aspect the gentleman mentioned is just as important. In other words, the problem is if we give people all these rights to prevent abuses by HMOs but they do not have any ability to enforce it, what good are the rights? We all know that. In our Patients' Bill of Rights that passed the

House, we have an internal appeal process. Then we also have an external appeal process, the idea being that if the HMO internally denies a person the ability to stay a few days in the hospital or a particular operation or procedure that the person and their doctor think they need, they can go outside the system without going to court and have an external review board look at it that is not dictated or controlled by the HMO. So we have that external review process before you would even have to sue in court. Texas has the same thing. That is one of the reasons why they have so few suits, is because these things go to an external administrative review and at that time usually the HMO reneges and lets people have the operation or procedure they think is necessary. Texas is really out front and very progressive in this regard. We need to do the same thing on the Federal level.

The other thing the gentleman talked about with the prescription drugs, I just find so many of my seniors coming to me at the forums or at the office and talking about the problem not only with price but also the inability to have any kind of benefit under Medicare. We have seen so many cases, the gentleman has probably seen them in Texas, too, as a border State. I am maybe a little more familiar with the Canadian example where people have been going across the border to Canada to buy drugs because it is so much cheaper. We know the majority of Americans who are seniors have no access to prescription drug benefits. That is really crucial, too. That is going to be part of the President's agenda and the Democratic agenda again.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. If the gentleman will yield further, we do have an experience in South Texas. In fact the gentleman is aware of the studies that we did in reference to the expenditure for certain prescriptions. When we looked at those prescription coverages and how much they cost, for a person with an HMO or the government, the prices ranged almost 25 percent less. The senior citizen was sometimes having to pay up to 300 percent more for the same medication. The same individuals that are paying for it are our senior citizens. Basically at the expense of our senior citizens, we are causing this to occur. I think the President is correct in saying that we need to come back and reassess that and that Medicare also has the responsibility to provide prescription coverage. I think that this is something that needs to occur, that needs to happen. For all practical purposes, the way it is now, it does not make any sense. We give it to our indigents but we do not provide it to our senior citizens. In fact, not only do we not provide it to them but we charge them 100, 200 to 300 percent more for the same prescription. We are basically robbing them. That is not right. We need to do whatever we can. I am hopeful that this time around there is a feeling that we can do a bipartisan effort in making something happen in this area. I am optimistic.

We have a unique opportunity as the gentleman well knows. It is an election year. We are all up for reelection, including Democrats and Republicans, both in the presidential and in the Congress and so it is a unique opportunity to ask our constituents to put the squeeze on their local official, their local Congressman and the presidential candidate, Republican or Democrat, to make it happen. I think it is something that most people feel it is the right thing to do. When we are asking our senior citizens to pay 200 to 300 percent more for the same prescription, it is not fair, it is not right, and we need to do something about it.

Again, I thank the gentleman very much for being here and taking the lead not only in terms of some of the health issues but a lot of the other issues that are before us. I thank the gentleman for allowing me the opportunity to say a few words.

Mr. PALLONE. I want to thank the gentleman again. I was just going to say there was one very positive development, I think, with regard to this prescription drug issue. That is, that a few weeks ago, I am sure the gentleman noticed that the major pharmaceutical companies, a lot of which are based in my State of New Jersey, announced that they were going to stop opposing a prescription drug benefit and speaking out against the President's proposed Medicare prescription drug benefit and were going to try to work with him to come up with a solution. I took that as a very positive development and contacted some of the pharmaceuticals in New Jersey which have their corporate headquarters in New Jersey in trying to work with them to accomplish that.

□ 1345

On a somewhat negative note, though, I noticed that my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), revealed some documents that had been circulated by some of the pharmaceuticals last week where they indicated that they were still going to be spending money and doing ads and doing things to try to oppose some of the efforts to keep the costs down.

I would say that there are two things here. We need the Medicare benefit, but we also need to have affordable drugs. It is also important for the pharmaceuticals, as I know the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) has said, that whatever benefit we provide has to be an affordable benefit as well in terms of buying drugs. Because if there is some kind of benefit but the costs keep going up and ultimately people cannot afford it, the benefit does not do them any good.

So we need to have the benefit, but we also have to have affordability and I think kind of empower people to be able to act together so that they can keep prices down.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. That advertisement that has been going on with Flo that comes out and she talks to our senior citizens, she is covered. She is taken care of right now with prescription coverage, but our senior citizens out there that are straight Medicare are not. I would attest the majority of Americans out there only have the straight Medicare and do not have prescription coverage.

For Hispanics and a lot of our minorities and especially those individuals that have worked in areas that do not have any form of a pension, which a lot of people that have worked for small companies, do not have that extended care. So it is important that we reach out to those individuals and that we provide that care.

I think that it is about time that we come back and kind of look at that. I know that throughout history, when it comes to health care, we have had some endeavors of trying to take care of and provide health care in terms of universal, across the board, and that occurred in the 1930s with Roosevelt, 1960s with Kennedy and Clinton in the 1990s. Ironically enough, we have not been able to do that, and I am hoping that we can soon start talking about also those uninsured that are out there.

The uninsured, they are over 44 million and growing, and I would attest that if the economy was not doing as well as it is that we would have a lot more uninsured, and that is something that is very scary because a lot of people are out there that are in need, and these are people that are not poor enough to qualify for medicaid, not old enough to qualify for Medicare and are working Americans that fall in between. So there is a real need for us to reach out to that population as well and the uninsured.

We have been doing those efforts with the CHIPS program, the children's program, but there is a need for us to push forward. I am hoping that the insurance companies, because they have been, in all honesty, an obstacle in the past; and I look at Medicare and the reasons why we were able to establish Medicare when LBJ was because of the fact that the insurance companies recognized that when people reached 65 they got sick, and that is when they did not want us, that is when they wanted government involved at that point in time. And if they were poor enough they knew people did not have money so they did not mind government being involved in medicaid because, after all, they were too poor to pay for that insurance.

Now we have this middle class that cannot afford it, do not have the access and are uninsured out there; and there is a need for us to provide some alternatives. And I am hoping that the private sector can participate in that effort and we can be able to come up with some kind of response.

Again, from Texas, we have the largest number of uninsured, the largest throughout the country. I am not proud to say that. Yes, we should be

proud that we have passed some legislation on HMOs that are far-reaching in terms of appeal process, but some of those areas we are still lacking. So we are hoping that as we look at this session that we can concentrate on some of those specific areas and try to meet some of those needs.

Mr. PALLONE. Well, again, I appreciate the gentleman bringing that up. The gentleman says that Texas has the largest percentage of uninsured, but this is a problem that is national. Six years ago, when President Clinton first proposed the universal health care plan, which I think was a good idea and if we did not have all the opposition from the insurance industry and the Republicans that we probably could have worked something out that provided universal coverage, but now over the last few years we have been trying in some of these areas, as you mentioned, with the kids' health care initiative in particular, to try to plug up the holes and cover some of the uninsured in sort of a piecemeal fashion.

It has been working, but even with that, even with the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill to deal with the problem of people having preexisting medical conditions not being able to get insurance and a lot of them can even with the kids' care insurance, we still have the number of uninsured growing nationally. We have to do more.

One of the things that the President is going to announce tonight is a major new initiative to try to expand on some of these health care Federal programs to provide more coverage for the uninsured. If I could just mention a couple of things that I think are very significant, with regard to the kids' care initiative as well as Medicare, he has major proposals to spend money and to do outreach so we can get more kids signed up both for medicaid as well as the kids' care program. Because we have had a problem getting kids signed up, I think that one of the major reasons why they do not sign up is because, many times, those are the same parents of those children who are uninsured, and what the President is proposing now is to expand the kids' care initiative so that the parents of those uninsured kids can also sign up for insurance using the State and the Federal subsidy that is provided with additional funds that he is going to include in his budget. I think that is a great idea. We need to make sure that we get all the kids, but if we can get those parents in that will help.

Then the other thing the gentleman talked about is to try to build on the private sector. Because the main way people traditionally obtained health insurance and still do in this country was through their employer, and if we can create financial incentives for employers when they hire people to make sure that they provide a health insurance option, that will go a long way as well. This is a major issue.

The other thing, too, is I am sure the gentleman heard that during the break a lot of the States are really worried about this now and they do not know what to do. I know New York and Wisconsin and other States are trying to come up with ways that the States can provide for the uninsured, but they are never going to be able to do it effectively without some Federal initiative. I think it is important to have that Federal initiative.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. One of the things I want to share with the gentleman and one of the concerns that I have and I will share with the gentleman the Texas experience in that the legislature moved for pretty good coverage overall but it is only funded at 55 to 65 percent, which means that even if they cover all the kids they are supposed to they are only going to cover half of the need that is out there.

One of the things that the gentleman mentioned that I would like to stress is that there were very little resources that were actually allocated for allowing individuals to educate people as to the fact that those monies were even available and so that if people do not take advantage of that it is not going to do any good. It can be out there, but that is one of the problems that we encounter in Texas is that they did it and they passed it, but if they do begin to utilize it only half of the people are going to be able to have access to it.

I wanted to share one other thing I think that is very important. I sit on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. From a veterans' perspective, and I have seen a lot of the documentation for veterans where they were promised access to health care and were not given that access to health care and there is a real need and we are pushing for it this time around to try to make something happen to provide access to health care for our veterans. Last year we moved on providing them additional monies for the ones that are in military raises as well as the pensions. This year we also want to concentrate on health care for our veterans, and we are looking at providing up to $5 billion that is needed to make sure that those individuals are covered.

Last year, we had a big fight on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs when we tried to add up to $3 billion for access to our existing services. We were able to add up to $1.5 billion, but that was after a big fight and only after that money came from future resources. So it is kind of like giving a raise right now with the intent that next year that that money was coming out of future years. So we are in a deeper hole and we find ourselves in a problem and we have an obligation to our veterans to provide them access to health care, and throughout this country we have a multitude of veterans and the services have not been there. It has been poor access, and the quality also leaves a lot to be desired.

So we are hoping that as we move along this year that we look at access to health care for our veterans and also look at what we can do with TRICARE for our people that are in the military.

I have people that are in the border areas that will have to travel 200 miles to San Antonio to have access if they wanted to. Those are some of the areas that we really need to kind of look at a little more seriously and pay a little more attention to. Those veterans deserve what we have promised. We have gone back on our word as a Congress. We can blame the administration, but we as congressmen also have an obligation, and that obligation is to make sure that we hold up to our word to make sure that those veterans who served our country and protected us and have protected our democracy that we also assure that they would have access to health care.

I am hoping that we will also move in that direction.

Mr. PALLONE. I totally agree. It is interesting because I remember 6 years ago when President Clinton first talked about his universal health care plan, he had a very important proposal in there to expand programs for veterans as well. Again, we have not been able to fulfill that, and we need to. We need to make sure that the veterans' health care system is adequately funded and that we look at new technologies and new ways to do things for the next millennium because otherwise we are not meeting the commitment to them.

So I want to thank the gentleman again.

I yield now to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON). I have not been back here for some time now, but I am glad to be back and hear from the gentlewoman.

Ms. NORTON. I would like to welcome the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) back personally and to welcome all of my colleagues back. We have missed the gentleman, and we are ready for a very productive year.

I would especially like to commend and thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for his initiative. He has been so much on the case for these issues for a number of years now, so I am not surprised that he would come to the floor and offer others of us an opportunity to come to the floor before the State of the Union speech this evening. I want to thank him for all of his hard work on the issues that face this House. There is no one more indefatigable in forcing us to face the issues than the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE).

I think it is a very good idea for us to look, pick out, among the many issues that the President will raise this evening, some which deserve to be highlighted. I must say that as I look down the subjects that are likely to be covered I see a very bipartisan agenda that the President will offer. This may be his last year in office, but it is a year that the Congress will be under the microscope as well to see if we can do better than we did last year by coming up with some substance to take home to the American people.

The President of the United States in this very Chamber last year put on the

table what became the mantra for the entire country: Save Social Security, reduce the deficit. That now, as I hear both sides of the aisle, is no longer the mantra of the President, or maybe our side, but everybody, the whole country, is saying save Social Security first; pay down the debt. We don't hear other issues rising to the level that we hear those issues, and I think that the President deserves credit because that is what a President is supposed to do. That is what the State of Union speech is for. He did that last year, and this year I am sure that will be a major part of his theme.

As I look down this extraordinary list, I will choose only two issues to comment upon. I must say that I see so many items on this list that I think can rally the support of Members on both sides: Doing more, as our country and only our country can do, to prevent the global spread of AIDS and to prevent the spread of AIDS in our country which is increasingly becoming a disease of the poor, the black and the brown; expanding the EITC, one of the great bipartisan programs, especially now when so many people are reaching the limits in their own States of their ability to stay on welfare.

□ 1400

There is creating smaller schools, so that there is less of a critical mass of large numbers of students anonymous enough so that we have other Columbines.

And of course there are the rising issues that were raised last year that I do not think we can go home without. I do not think anybody can face their seniors without prescription drugs this year. And of course, HMO reform or the Patients' Bill of Rights is so much overdue that I see the two sides coming together on those.

There are many other new issues that the President has put on his agenda such as the smart gun technology initiative, but I would like to focus on two issues that the President has raised. One is investing in modernization of schools. The other is increasing support for civil rights enforcement.

Let me say a word about investing in new and modernized schools. This issue has been on the agenda 3 to 4 years now. It is dangerously overripe. The President wants a tax credit to modernize over 6,000 schools, and $1.3 billion in funding for 8,300 renovation projects in high-poverty, high-need school districts that do not have any capacity to make these repairs themselves over the next 5 years. We have children in trailers. We have children going to school in slums.

But I say to the gentleman from New Jersey that I want to draw to the attention of the body how our government, this Congress, has dealt with urgent matters like this affecting how we house students. In the sixties and seventies we poured, what amounts to ''poured'', billions of dollars into public and private colleges and universities to allow them to borrow from banks to obtain funds to construct classrooms and dorms. That is what we did for people going on to higher education.

So Members of this body went to school, slept in dormitories, took classes in classrooms that essentially were funded out of a Federal program, an old loan program, that subsidized interest payments during the lifetime of payments so that the effective interest rate of those who borrowed to build classrooms and dormitories was 3 percent less than the actual rate.

Something close to that notion is what has been on the agenda for the last several years. The President has now switched to a tax credit instead, because we were not able to get a subsidy for the interest payments. What this would mean, for example, to colleges and universities, where they were mostly middle class folks, is that if the colleges, for example, borrowed at 10 percent, then the effective interest rate was 7 percent. What that meant was that a lot of us were able to go to school and classrooms and dormitories that were decent, and decent only because of this.

In other words, the Congress saw that there was a real need, and they did not say, look, go to your State legislature do that. They knew that enough money to do it was not going to come from the States. We in fact found a way to subsidize this.

I ask Members, I ask the gentleman from New Jersey, does he not think if we could do this in the sixties and seventies for college students, then in the nineties, and as we are now in a new century, we can do something similar for kids in school who go to school with leaky roofs, who go to school where there are rats, who go to school in trailers?

This is essentially the kind of moderate proposal that the President has offered, recognizing that he is dealing with a Congress which has people of many different points of view, so he does not come in and say, give them the money. He says, allow a tax credit to modernize up to 6,000 schools.

Can we possibly go home again without a proposal similar to this, I ask the gentleman from New Jersey?

Mr. PALLONE. The answer, obviously, is yes, we need to do it. I am trying today not to start out with a partisan statement, but the bottom line, we know that when the President has tried over the last 2 years to come up with some kind of way to help with school modernization, the different bond proposals, the different ways of helping the local municipalities, the Republicans have just opposed all these things. So he just keeps coming up with innovative ways of trying to get this across.

I think this is a great idea, and I have to say, I was listening to what the gentlewoman said about the need for smaller schools, modernization. Every district has this problem with either crumbling schools or overcrowded classrooms and the need for money to build new schools.

I have the combination. My district is one where we have some smaller urban areas where I have seen crumbling schools that need new roofs and new gyms and all that, and other, more suburban towns that I represent where they are in trailers and they talk about how they may have to go to split sessions because there has been so much of an influx of new people, and they have not been able to keep up with it.

I think the school modernization program is crucial. Of course, we have not mentioned the fact that the president has been and we have been somewhat successful in getting the Republicans to provide funding to reduce class size at the lower levels, because the gentlewoman talked about smaller schools. Smaller schools to me means not only smaller schools physically, but also smaller classes, so there is more individual attention.

Even that was opposed by the Republicans. We had to go tooth and nail until we finally got more money to reduce class size and hire more teachers.

The other idea that the President came up with with regard to higher education is so crucial. Again, when people talk to me about education, their biggest concern is the ability, whether they are going to be able to send their kids off to college. The costs are just skyrocketing.

In New Jersey, where we send most of our students out of State because we do not have enough slots in-State for them, it is a particular crisis. So what the President has proposed in terms of helping parents and students to pay for higher education I think is crucial. The gentlewoman is right on point.

Ms. NORTON. I thank the gentleman. I want to say a word about one other issue.

Of course, as a former chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, I am always pleased to see something on the agenda that relates to civil rights enforcement. A few weeks ago I was at the White House with a 101-year-old woman from the District of Columbia who had lived through reconstruction, through Jim Crow, all here in this city, which had legal segregation.

The President announced that he would be submitting money for civil rights enforcement, at $695 million for civil rights enforcement. This of course is an issue that by now should bring us all together. This is not about affirmative action, which is an issue where we are in some substantial disagreement with some on the other side. This is about sheer enforcement, as more and more people come forward not only to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, but to many of the civil rights agencies.

I have been able to find common cause with Members from the other side on these issues. In fact, I can recall amendments in the appropriation process where we worked together. I

certainly hope this money to increase civil rights enforcement will in fact be forthcoming.

The President announced just this week a special appropriation to bolster the Equal Pay Act and equal pay enforcement and opportunity. The gentleman may remember that in this very Chamber, not a very bipartisan Chamber, at this time last year when the President mentioned equal pay for equal work, somehow everybody in the Chamber got off her and his bottom to applaud, and that is because this issue has now become an American issue, it is no longer a woman's issue, because men have seen that their wives, who have the same education that they have, somehow bring home less money.

It is time we stopped talking about it, stopped sloganizing it, and do something about it. So the President has put in $27 million for an equal pay initiative for enforcement of the Equal Pay Act and for other purposes related to enforcement.

I like and I hope all of us will like the part that says, to teach business how to meet the legal requirements. We think that one of the reasons that there continues to be unequal pay is that business has not been well educated on this important section that has been in the law since 1963. It was passed before the laws barring discrimination on the basis of race were passed.

If in fact we use the traditional apparatus, we can come together on the widely-hailed notion of equal pay. I believe that the President's proposal will help us.

There are other things in his equal pay proposal that go to helping, for example, the Labor Department to improve its own work on training women for nontraditional posts, because once women are in nontraditional posts the pay begins to come up automatically.

We have huge equal pay problems in this country still, stemming largely from the fact that women are pouring into the work force. They still continue to go disproportionately into traditional jobs. We still see women seriously undervalued, even in those jobs.

If we look at women in my profession at all, we will see women earning less money than men who enter the profession. There is lots of work to be done there. When the President takes initiative on civil rights enforcement, on equal pay, then we are putting our money where our mouth has been for a long time.

I want to thank the gentleman for his work on this special order and for allowing me to highlight some of the issues of special importance to me.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman. I share her praise for the President's equal pay initiative.

If I could just say one thing about the additional funds for civil rights enforcement, one of the things that I worry about, and having been back in the district for the last two months now, my district, not the District of Columbia, is that I just see a lot of cynicism on the part of my constituents over commitments, if you will, or promises that they see the government making in sort of general terms that when it gets to the specific do not happen.

That is why I think it is important. If a civil rights violation occurs, there has to be enforcement. Otherwise it is meaningless. That is true whether it is the environment or whatever it happens to be.

So many people will say to me, the law says this, but in reality, it does not mean anything. That is why I think it is so important that there be increased enforcement, and obviously there will not be unless we provide the money up front to hire the people to do the work. So I think that is crucial, and I appreciate the gentlewoman bringing it to our attention.

I yield to my colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ).

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I just want to share, I know the gentlewoman is here from the District of Columbia, and I was appalled to see the condition of our schools here in the District of Columbia. It is embarrassing to the Congress and it should be embarrassing to all of us, because that is one school district that we are held responsible for and obligated to have to provide resources for. I am ashamed that we still have those conditions.

The gentleman talked also about our schools throughout the United States. One responsibility we have is to make sure that we provide that construction money to make sure that we allocate those resources. A lot of those schools, in all honesty, were built prior to the microwave. If anyone lives in an old home like I do, they know they have to go back and redo the wiring, if nothing else. So there is a real need for us to reinvest in our infrastructure as it deals with education. So I am very pleased that the President is pushing forward on new construction.

I also want to add a little bit in terms of the importance of the digital divide. The administration, President Clinton has been in the forefront in allowing additional resources for new technology. Without that technology, a lot of our youngsters in our country would also fall back. There is a real need for us to prepare ourselves, not only our students but our adults, our mid-management throughout the country, to make sure we are well-trained in the new technology.

I know a lot of resources are needed for us to go back to school. That includes a lot of the Congressmen, to make sure we can work with the new computers. But doing that is going to be key in order for us to compete as a country. I think it is going to be very important that we allocate some resources in that technology and that we prepare our youngsters. Part of that is having access.

□ 1415

Most of our poor communities throughout this country do not have a computer at home. But if they could, we could provide it to them in our libraries, in our schools, in our universities; and we have started to do that, but a lot more needs to be done. We still have a lot of schools that are not computerized and do not have the new technology, and I think that that is one of the things that we need. Not only do we need it in terms of ourselves, but I really see, as a way of leading this world, if we are going to continue to be the leading country, we are going to have to be in the forefront.

One of those indicators is going to be the level of our education. I sit on the Committee on Armed Services; and when it comes to our national defense that should be our first priority, making sure that we educate our constituency, making sure that everyone is well prepared. Because that is part of our defense, and that is part of a showing that we are going to be in the forefront when it comes to economics. So I am hoping that we will continue to do that with President Clinton in his last year.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I agree with the gentleman from Texas. I was thinking when I saw the gentlewoman from Washington, D.C. (Ms. NORTON) there that I remember, I do not know if it was 6 months or a year ago, the memory fades now, but there was an occasion when she asked us, and we marched from the Capitol to a nearby school, it was within walking distance of the Capitol, and I cannot remember the name of the school, and we had a march.

When we went there, she showed us this very innovative public school within the District of Columbia. I could not believe the enthusiasm that existed in that school. One of the things that they had, which I think is somewhat unique, is that all the kids were wearing school uniforms, which is something that I know that the President has proposed. I do not mean to just dwell on that. But there was just a lot of excitement in that place.

But one of the things I kept thinking about is we keep talking about innovation, and one can put school uniforms in schools and one can come up with other things, but one cannot function, one cannot be very innovative if the place is falling apart literally.

I think it is incumbent upon us to provide the resources so that schools are modernized. Modernization and the President's program for modernization is not just bricks and mortar, it is also for the Internet and for the electronic and the technologically innovative things that the infrastructure for those kinds of things are included in that modernization program as well.

As my colleague says, what good is it? We cannot expect kids to use the Internet if they do not have the computers. They are not going to be able to have the money to do it at home, so we

need to make sure that it is available in the schools. The school modernization program deals with that as well as providing the funding so that the town can build it, put a new roof on the school as well.

I was amazed. I went to a school district, a school a few years ago in New Brunswick, which is one of the urban towns that I represent. Their roof was leaking. The walls were crumbling. It was unbelievable. I think a lot of people think that the school buildings generally are in good shape. But if they take a look and they go to some of the schools where these kids are being educated, they would be surprised, even the parents sometimes, to learn how bad it is.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ).

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, sometimes people do not realize, also, that the demographics have changed. Just like we needed a lot of construction, a lot of new schools in the 1950s and 1960s because of the baby boomers, now we are experiencing what we call, what I like to call, the baby echo. That baby echo is a larger number. So there is a need, also, for additional classrooms because of that large number of youngsters in our schools.

So there is a real need for us to go back and do what these individuals did back in the 1950s and 1960s, and that was invest in our kids. We need to do the same. We need to invest in our future by investing in our kids and also investing in our adults. I really feel very strongly that we need to come up with new technological centers so that people in mid-management and people that are 40, 50 can go back to school and learn about computers and be able to go forward.

I also wanted to take this opportunity, if possible, to talk to my colleague, and I know he is well aware of the issue of safety in our schools. We have experienced a lot of violence, and we have had some difficulty. There is a need for us to kind of look at the issue of safety. I know that when we look at the violence that is occurring, there is a need for us to reach out.

The President does have a program that he is going to be looking at promoting safe schools. I recall when I did my town hall meeting with school safety I had someone stand up and say, ''Congressman RODRIGUEZ, you cannot even control our prisons, and you expect to control our schools?'' There was a lot to be said when that was indicated.

Our prison systems, the way they are run now, if one goes in there, unfortunately, if one is white, one better join one of the white supremacist groups there. If one is Mexican, one better be part of the Mexican Mafia.

I recall the individual who committed that atrocity in Texas that dragged that African American. I remember people talking about that young man. They used to say, when he was in school, he never indicated or showed that he was that kind. But after he had come out of prison, he had come out worse. In so doing, we have got to make sure that our society does not even perpetuate more of that.

So we need to reach out to those schools and do whatever we can to make sure that those youngsters feel safe, and part of that is through counseling, part of that is through having social workers reaching out, because I feel real strongly that schools are only a reflection of our community.

If there are gangs or problems, those gangs exist in those communities. That is why we need to reach out and work, and those resources in our schools are drastically needed to making sure that we can provide that education. Because if the child is not safe, they are not going to learn.

Again, I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for allowing me this opportunity to be here with him.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, one of the things that I want to mention, because sometimes I think that when we talk about these national education initiatives, that some of our constituents worry and say, well, education traditionally has been locally based, and the Federal Government has not really taken that much of a role, and what does all this mean if the Federal Government gets involved.

I just want to stress we are really not changing anything in terms of local control of education. I mean, we are not suggesting in any way that the Federal Government dictate what teachers are hired or what textbooks are used in the classroom or what their curriculum is. All we are really doing with this school modernization initiative, the school safety initiative, the gentleman from Texas mentioned the effort to provide more money to hire teachers so that class sizes can be reduced, all we are really doing is helping the local towns afford some of these things because they cannot afford them now.

I am sure the gentleman has the same situation in Texas that I face in New Jersey, where the funding for education is primarily locally based. The towns just cannot afford these things anymore. Believe me, it does not matter if they are an urban area or if they are a suburban area. They cannot keep raising the local property taxes to put up the new school, to put in to hire people to monitor the hallways for safety reasons, to hire extra teachers, to reduce the class size.

By providing funding for these types of things, which is what the Democrats want to do, all we are really doing is helping the local taxpayer. Because either they are going to have to bond for these things and will not have the money to do it or going to have to raise taxes, which is very difficult and creates more problems.

So all we are really saying is we want to take some of the Federal dollars and send it back to the towns for these purposes. We are not dictating to them what they do. They have to apply for these things. But we are making it easier for them to fund it.

I do not know a town, no matter how affluent in my district, that is not in favor of that. Every mayor, every board of education tells me that they would love to see some of this happen.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, when I started politics, I started on the issue of school finance and the fact that the only money one has to build one's schools is from one's local community. So if one lives in a poor community, one is going to have less resources. If one lives in a rich community, there is going to be a lot more resources to educate one's child. That is why I got involved in politics, because I saw the disparity.

The gentleman from New Jersey is right. Most Americans a lot of times do not realize that the construction of that campus comes from only local resources. Just in the last few years has the State of Texas decided to help out a little bit. Prior to that, every single building in the State of Texas was only through local resources.

So it varies from district to district, from county to county in terms of how much they have and whether they can build more classrooms or not. Some decide to splurge and do things that they should not be doing.

But the reality is, yes, a lot of communities throughout this country need assistance. They need new technology. They need new wiring. I think it is going to be important for us to be there in the forefront to provide that technology and that infrastructure that will pay for the next generation and our future for this country.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Texas. I think we are running out of time so I want to kind of summarize and say that and I see that some of our colleagues are getting ready already for the State of the Union Address here tonight. But the bottom line is, with the State of the Union, is there is a real opportunity for us to work on a bipartisan basis on some of these issues.

I just hope that this year, unlike last year, we see the cooperation of the Republican majority in the Congress working with the President and with the Democrats to get some of these things done. Because if we do not, I think that the American people are going to be very disappointed.

They clearly want HMO reform. They want a prescription drug benefit for Medicare. They want the Federal Government to do more to help those who do not have health insurance. They want us to work on some of these education initiatives.

If we do not come through, we only have ourselves to blame. I am just really doing nothing more, as I am sure the President will do tonight, but to call on the Republicans and the majority in the Congress to work with us this year

and not have the negative attitude towards the President's proposals that, unfortunately, we had in the last year.

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RETURN ELIAN GONZALEZ TO HIS FATHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I recently returned from Cuba with the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and had the chance, while in Cuba, to talk with many people regarding Elian Gonzalez.

As a trained social worker, as a mother, and as a grandmother, my concern is that the child be in a loving environment, free of abuse. My concern is for his well-being, his mental and physical health and that he has a stable family environment.

We met with Mr. Juan Gonzalez, Elian's father, and his great grandmother and other members of his family. This meeting and discussions with many people in Cuba who know the family have convinced me unequivocally that Elian does have a loving, fit, and equipped family, and that he should be returned to his father immediately.

There is no way that a child should not be with his or her parents because of material things that we value in this country. In our own country, for example, 18.9 percent of our children under 18 live in poverty. In Florida, 22.3 percent of the children live in poverty. In my own home state of California, over 23 percent of California's children live in poverty. I say this to say that we cannot evaluate Elian's situation in material terms because there is nothing more valuable than the love of a father and the support of a family unit.

Now, I am greatly concerned that, in addition to the traumatic experiences of losing his mother, being shipwrecked, and nearly losing his own life, that Elian is now caught in an international custody battle. The constant barrage of questioning, interviews, protests, and the relentless exposure to the media, that has really only exacerbated the already extremely stressful and disorienting circumstances. Elian's health and his welfare must be our first priority. We must consider the potentially damaging and adverse impact of all of this negative activity.

I urge for Elian's expeditious return to his family, his father, his community, and his familiar environment. It is my fear that the longer that this battle continues, the more Elian and his family will be harmed emotionally. The decision of whether to return Elian to his family in Cuba should not be a political decision. It should be a decision that exclusively supports the best interest of the child and his need to be reunited with his father.

The time that I spent with Elian's father and his family has assured me in no uncertain terms that this reunification is a moral imperative and the right thing to do. I am appalled by the manner in which the rights of Elian's father, Mr. Gonzalez, continue to be threatened. To continue this policy which excludes Elian's father from participation in his son's life in his home sets a very dangerous precedent.

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In no way would we allow our young people who do not have a lot of material things at home to be placed in homes that have more wealth. That is just unacceptable.

Please, let us do the right thing for Elian and please let us send him back home to his father and his family.

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PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, tonight, as I sit in the Chamber with our colleagues, it will be my 14th opportunity and honor to sit in this room as the President of the United States delivers the State of the Union address for this Nation for the year 2000, the beginning of the new millennium.

I have had the pleasure of sitting through speeches by Ronald Reagan, by George Bush and, most recently, by President Clinton. We are going to hear a lot tonight, and I want to talk tonight about some of the things that we will likely hear and will not hear, and I want to talk about some foreign policy issues relative to a trip that I had the pleasure of leading with a bipartisan delegation of Members in November of last year to Russia.

Madam Speaker, what we know we are going to hear tonight, because of the huge surplus that is being generated with our economic upturn and the balanced budget that we are now in the midst of securing, we are going to hear the President basically recreate Christmas all over again. The American people will hear litany after litany of new programs, new ideas, new ways to spend money that has been generated because of our surplus.

And, believe me, Madam Speaker, there is going to be something for everyone. There will be a new program for everyone in the country. And Madam Speaker, it kind of amazes me because the American people have to understand, they can send us any amount of money they want, and we will find a way to spend it in Washington. But is that really what we are here for? Is our goal here to find new ways to create new programs with fancy sounding titles, with new bureaucracies, that are for the most part run by political appointees that are going to better tell the people locally how to run their lives or better solve the problems locally than if we gave the money back to the American people and then let them make those basic and fundamental decisions?

Believe me, tonight, if there is one thing we know we will hear it will be a Christmas tree list of goodies that the President wants to give out all across this Nation. And he will try to hit every group in America there is. Every group.

Madam Speaker, we have done some good things over the past 6 years. And, yes, many of them have been with the bipartisan effort in this body and the other body. But, yes, some of the times we have had to fight the administration every step of the way.

I can recall when the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KASICH), our distinguished Committee on the Budget chairman, first proposed balancing the budget 6 years ago. The President got caught and he did not know what to say. In fact, I remember the famous commercials where he would say we are going to balance the budget in 8 years, 7, 6, 5, 4. He really did not know because he had no plan. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KASICH) stuck his neck out and said we will submit a plan for a balanced budget, when no one else believed him, including some on the Republican side. The gentleman from Ohio persevered and eventually we accomplished what many thought was impossible.

Now, the President will take credit for the balanced budget. But in fact if we look back over the past 7 years, I can recall a couple of years where the President's budget he submitted to us got no votes in the House. Not one vote. Because no Member from either side would support the President's budget plan. Yet tonight President Clinton will take credit for the balanced budget that we are now enjoying which has helped to promoted our economic success.

Our Congress, our leadership here, with the support of some Democrats, has tried to give back as much money from the surplus as possible to the American people. But here the President has fought us every step of the way. He has rather desired to keep the money in Washington where the bureaucracy can better decide how to spend funds than allowing the American people to get that money back for themselves. There are some in this city who think that the money we collect from the taxpayers of America really is our money as opposed to their money.

Here tonight we will hear the President talk about welfare reform. What we will not hear about tonight, Madam Speaker, is the President saying that he made a mistake twice and vetoed the welfare reform bill. Because two times over the past 7 years the Congress, bipartisan, Democrats and Republicans, passed welfare reform in both bodies. Two times. And in both of those cases the President vetoed welfare reform.

It was not until he read the polls and he saw that the American people wanted welfare reform that he finally signed the welfare reform bill the third time, and then announced after he signed it he was going to make substantive changes to the bill that we had passed that he signed in the following fiscal year. And then good things happened with welfare reform, as we said they would, for the past 5 years, 6 years, and the President now will take credit for that tonight. He will say look at how many people are working as opposed to being on welfare. Where were those President's comments when he vetoed both welfare reform bills that the Congress passed with bipartisan votes over the past 5 years?

We will hear the President talk about protecting Social Security tonight. But, Madam Speaker, we will not hear about the President last year wanting to use 60 percent of the Social Security surplus for other programs. We will not hear him talk about that. We will not hear him talk about the fact that Congress resisted and said, oh, no, Mr. President, we are not going to spend any of the Social Security Trust Fund money. We are going to protect all of that for our senior citizens. So the President will talk about protecting Social Security, but he will not talk about the fact that he originally wanted to use a significant portion of those dollars.

Now, we are going to hear the President talk a lot about education tonight, Madam Speaker. And being a teacher by profession, and one of the 25 Members of Congress who used to be a classroom teacher, education is very important to me. The President is going to come out with a lot of grandiose plans to spend a lot of money that is controlled by Washington, to keep those strings attached so that the bureaucrats in this city control how local school boards and how local superintendents decide how to best meet the needs of their people.

One of the things that this Congress has done for the past 5 years has been to allocate more resources to local schools, attempting every step of the way to remove the bureaucracy in Washington and allow local school boards and local parents to make decisions about where local education money could best be spent. Now the President will talk a good game there, but again it has been the Congress who has led the way, many times with the President finally signing our legislation into law to give local school boards and local taxpayers more control in terms of education. And that is where the focus should be.

As a classroom teacher for 7 years, I understand the importance of allowing local teachers to decide how to best motivate kids. As someone who worked in a chapter 1 and Title I program for 3 years, I understand the importance of allowing local school districts to set the policy priorities and objectives for local students to meet.

Now, we are going to hear the President make a few comments about defense tonight, Madam Speaker, but in last year's State of the Union I brought a stopwatch with me because I wanted to see if my hunch was correct regarding the President's focus on national security. My hunch was correct. The President spoke for 1 hour and 17 minutes last January. The amount of time he focused on security issues was 90 seconds. Ninety seconds out of an hour and 17 minutes. And part of that 90 seconds was when he looked up in the audience and thanked a B–52 pilot who was flying those bombing missions over in Iraq.

What he did not tell the American people, which was even more important, was that that B–52 pilot was flying an airplane that will be 75 years old because we do not have the money to replace it. And what he did not talk to the American people about, and I will guarantee he will not mention it tonight, is the fact that we have 20,000 young Americans who are on food stamps today, who are serving their country and yet who have to use food stamps to take care of their families' needs.

And what the President will not talk about tonight, Madam Speaker, is the fact that he has deployed our troops in more instances than any administration in the last century. In fact, Madam Speaker, if we take all the presidents who served from the end of World War II until 1991, all of those Presidents combined deployed our troops 10 times. This President has now deployed our troops for the 34th time. And none of those deployments were paid for. He has put the troops in harm's way and allowed the Congress to come up with a way to pay for those costs by cutting other parts of our already decreasing defense budget.

No, the President is not going to talk about the fact that our Navy is now going down to about 200 ships. He will not talk about the fact that a couple of our Army divisions have been declared not fit to handle the kinds of missions that they are being asked to perform. He is not going to talk about the fact that General Schwarzkopf and other generals have said we could not complete another Desert Storm if it occurred. He will not talk about the fact that morale in the military is as low today as it has been since the end of World War II; that our reenlistment rate for pilots is down below 15 percent; that none of the services, except for the Marine Corps, can get young people to join.

The President will not talk about any of that tonight, Madam Speaker, because in his mind that is not the State of the Union. In fact, Madam Speaker, his State of the Union is a Disney-like State of the Union, where we only talk about positive things, where there is room for both parties to share, but not focus on the negative things that have come about in some cases by the Congress but in my opinion largely by the failure of leadership in the White House.

Madam Speaker, this President will not talk about security with any definitive plan in tonight's speech, we can rest assured on that. Because he took James Carville's advice very well when he was elected 7 years ago, when James Carville told him, ''It's the economy, stupid. Focus on the economy and don't worry about anything else.'' So by not talking about threats around the world, by not talking about the realities of what is occurring in Russia and China and the Middle East, between India and Pakistan, by not talking about those areas where trouble is brewing on a regular basis, the American people do not think we have to spend any more money on supporting our military.

In fact, Madam Speaker, I would be surprised tonight if the President told the real story about our relations with Russia and China. Things were going well 7 years ago. In fact, we had a new era, with Russia becoming a free democracy. Both our government and the Russian government declared the two countries to be strategic partners.

Where are we today, Madam Speaker? Russia's new strategic partner, as defined by the new President of Russia, Mr. Putin, is China, not the U.S. In fact, Madam Speaker, our relationship with Russia has never been worse than it is today. And in fact we have now seen over the past 12 months meeting after meeting between senior Russian leaders and senior Chinese leaders where they are now exchanging technology and both of whom are looking to the U.S. as their enemy. Why is that happening, Madam Speaker? It is happening because of our failed foreign policy.

Now, the President has had some successes. He deserves to take credit for his work in helping settle the situation in involving Ireland and Great Britain, and I will give him the credit for that. But I must say that, while taking the credit for those successes, he also needs to accept the blame for the failures of our policy in regard to China and Russia.

Madam Speaker, the delegation that I led to Moscow, in fact to Ukraine, Moldova, and Moscow this past November, saw firsthand the failures of this administration. Our delegation consisted of 10 Members of Congress, 7 Republicans and 3 Democrats. The purpose of our trip was threefold, Madam Speaker: It was to travel to Ukraine at the invitation of the Ukrainian Rada and President Kuchma, and to set up a formal relationship between the Rada, the parliament of Ukraine, and the U.S. Congress. This new relationship is to be modeled after the relationship that I started with Russia 6 years ago.

Because of late votes in November, we had to cancel the formal part of the trip to Ukraine. However, three members of our delegation broke away and went to Ukraine and did have the meetings to begin the process of this

new relationship. And I am pleased and happy that the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) and my good friend, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER), have agreed to co-chair this new inter-parliamentary relationship between the Ukrainian Rada and the U.S. Congress, and our trip solidified that relationship as we started the process off in November of last year.

And by the way we will have another trip of Ukrainian Rada members to the U.S. sometime in the first quarter of this year. We moved on from Ukraine to Moldova, a country that is strategically important to America's interest and to the future of Russia and to the people in that part of the world. We were there at the request and invitation of the President of Moldova as well as the Parliament.

It was heartwarming, Madam Speaker, that the Speaker of the Moldovan Parliament, because we could not arrive there during a weekday but had to postpone our visit until Saturday, convened a special session of the Parliament on Saturday morning. It was heartwarming to see every member of the Moldovan Parliament sitting in the chamber as our delegation walked in. And I had the high honor and privilege of addressing the session of the Parliament to talk about the relationship between the Moldovan people and the people of the United States.

While in Moldova, in meetings with the President, meetings with the leadership of the Moldovan government and the majority and opposition leadership of the Parliament, we also challenged them to establish an interparliamentary relationship with the Congress, which they have accepted. And I am pleased to announce, Madam Speaker, that the two cochairs of the Moldovan Parliament-U.S. Congress interchange are in fact the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH).

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So again the Congress, in a bipartisan way, made significant contributions to improve relations with both of those nations.

Then finally, Madam Speaker, we traveled on to Moscow. Our trip to Moscow was a special trip because we were traveling to Moscow at the invitation of the Duma, the parliament in Russia. The Duma, back in September of last year, formally invited our interparliamentary exchange program, cochaired by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and myself, to establish a bilateral relationship of elected parliamentarians to help the Russians uncover the scandal involving the finances of the Russian Government. We accepted the request of the Russians to bring a bipartisan delegation to Moscow to begin formal talks of how we could work with the Russian side to uncover the reasons and the causes of billions of dollars being stolen by Russian Government officials, by people surrounding the Yeltsin government and by Russian banking institutions, in some cases with the cooperation of American institutions. So our trip was to solidify that relationship that they had asked us to get involved with.

Madam Speaker, our meetings in Moscow were extensive. We met with everyone, from the mayor of Moscow, Mayor Luzhkov, who is himself a new party official in the fatherland party, which did very well in the Duma elections in December, to leadership of the Duma, the vice-speaker of the Duma, the number two person in the state Duma, all the faction leaders, as well as leadership of Russia involving housing, helping them with their mortgage programs, which is just starting out, meetings with former Russian officials who were responsible for programs like biological weapons, so that we can learn more about the instability that exists within Russia today.

But, Madam Speaker, I want to talk about one meeting that was especially important because I think this meeting and what happened around this meeting is symbolic of this administration's policies which I think have caused many of the problems that Russia is experiencing today and has caused the freezing of the relationship between the U.S. and Russia unlike at any time since the days of the Cold War.

Madam Speaker, knowing that our bipartisan delegation was going to Moscow at the request of the Russian Duma, the 26 members of the Duma anti-corruption task force, I thought in advance that besides meeting with the Duma our bipartisan delegation should also meet with a man by the name of Skuratov. Mr. Skuratov is roughly the equivalent to Janet Reno in our government, the top law enforcement official in Russia.

Mr. Skuratov is to weed out corruption, to investigate instances of abuse of power, and to find out if and where money is being used for illegal purposes that should have been going to the Russian people.

So, Madam Speaker, as I have done in the past on previous trips to Moscow, I officially asked our State Department to set up three meetings for us in Moscow with the rest of the meetings being set up through our own contacts.

The three meetings were with the defense minister of Russia, Mr. Sergeyev, whom I have met before, with the new at that time the prime minister, and the new president of Russia, President Putin, who was out of the country when we arrived and we, understandably, could not meet with him. But the third and perhaps most important meeting was the request that we made to meet with Mr. Skuratov.

Now, Mr. Skuratov is somewhat of a controversial figure. Besides being the chief prosecutor in Russia, he was found to have been involved in and, at least, filmed in what appeared to be on the Russian TV an escapade with a prostitute, or a woman, in a Moscow hotel. After that little bit of film footage was played by the Russian Government on national TV, Boris Yeltsin fired Skuratov.

Now, it just so happens, Madam Speaker, that he was fired the day before he was about to indict senior Russian elected officials who he had found were involved in ripping off hundreds of millions and billions of dollars that were supposed to go to the Russian people.

In fact, Madam Speaker, when Boris Yeltsin fired Skuratov the first time, the elected parliament in Russia, the upper council equivalent to our Senate, the Federation Counsel, overrode Mr. Yeltsin by a wide margin and said, you will not fire Skuratov; we, in fact, endorse him.

So then President Yeltsin fired Skuratov a second time, and the Federation Counsel reinstated Skuratov a second time. So Yeltsin fired him a third time, and the Federation Counsel reinstated him a third time.

Now, Yeltsin says all along the time period here that he kept firing Skuratov because he was an immoral person. Now, I do not know whether Mr. Skuratov is an immoral person or not, Madam Speaker, but I can tell my colleagues this, not only was he fired by President Yeltsin three times even though the Senate in Russia supported him, but over 25 deputy prosecutors that were working with Skuratov on the corruption in Russia were fired along with him.

Now, the hotel film footage only showed one man, it did not show 25 other prosecutors, involved in immoral acts. Yet all 25 of these prosecutors working for and with Skuratov were relieved at the same time.

Now, why would they be relieved? What was so significant that Yeltsin found it important to fire them? Well, that is why I felt it was important for us to meet with Skuratov and to hear what he had to say. So, Madam Speaker, we requested through our State Department the opportunity to meet with Skuratov.

Some strange things occurred, Madam Speaker, that I want our colleagues to hear, which is the reason why I have taken the floor tonight, which I am sure President Clinton will not talk about tonight in the State of the Union speech because it has been a part of our policy toward Russia for the past 7 years. We do not like to see or hear bad things coming from nations where our relationship is based on personalities, like President Clinton to President Yeltsin.

When we arrived in Moscow, my staff asked the State Department if the meeting had been set up with Mr. Skuratov. The State Department said, no, we could not arrange the meeting with Mr. Skuratov. We were very disappointed, to say the least.

The Monday morning we arrived at the Duma headquarters, equivalent to our Capitol building, we were brought into the committee room where the chairman of the security committee

for the Duma was about to host us, Mr. Ilyukhin, and that was to be followed in a large hearing room for a public hearing hosted by the chairman of the anti-corruption task force involving over 20 members of the Russian Duma.

During our meeting with all the Members of Congress, both parties, and Mr. Ilyukhin, a couple of deputies said to him, do you think it would be possible for us to have a meeting with Mr. Skuratov? Upon which Mr. Ilyukhin said, sure, that is easy. We can set that up for you whenever you like.

I looked over at the State Department official in the room with us and I said, well, that is interesting because our State Department said they could not reach Mr. Skuratov. The members of the Duma said, no problem, we will arrange the meeting for you.

The irony of the request and the fact that the Duma members would set up the meeting was, Madam Speaker, that the State Department then requested of me if they could attend the meeting with Mr. Skuratov which they had failed to set up.

On Tuesday evening, after our meetings with the Russian leadership, with Mayor Luzhkov, with the leaders of the Duma, the Federal Counsel, and with agencies of the Russian Government, at 6 o'clock in the evening in a secret room in our hotel Mr. Skuratov was seated waiting for Members of Congress to arrive.

I was surprised when we arrived in the meeting room that there was a State Department employee at the end of the table. I asked him to identify himself, which he did; and he said he was there at the suggestion of our Ambassador Jim Collins.

So I began the meeting. It was ironic, Madam Speaker, that the State Department that could not set up the meeting for Members of Congress with Mr. Skuratov would want to have an official present at the table to monitor what was going to take place.

So I thought I would ask Mr. Skuratov how he found out about the meeting. I said, Mr. Skuratov how did you know to be here today? He said, some of my friends that you met with asked me to come over and meet with you, and I told them I was more than happy to meet with Members of the U.S. Congress.

I said, Mr. Skuratov, when did our State Department contact you to tell you that Members of Congress wanted to meet with you? He said, Oh, Congressman, your State Department never contacted me. In fact, I did not know you wanted to meet with me until Monday night late there was a message on my phone machine at my home asking me to call the embassy back in Moscow.

That was the evening after we had gotten a commitment from the Duma members that we would get a meeting with Mr. Skuratov.

Madam Speaker, it is obvious what was going on here. Our State Department did not want the 10 Members of Congress on the trip to meet face to face with Mr. Skuratov.

Well, at that I was very upset, along with our colleagues who were with me. We asked the State Department official to leave because we felt he did not have a purpose in being at the meeting with us except to take notes and perhaps report back to the Yeltsin government.

Then something strange happened, Madam Speaker, almost like it was out of a James Bond movie. Here we are in Moscow, in the National Hotel on the third floor in a private room, and the Members of Congress, including myself, have just kicked out our State Department official who was in this meeting; and a woman knocks on the door and she has got a fur coat on and a fur hat and a purse. And she comes in; and I say, excuse me, this is a private meeting. Would you mind leaving, stepping out of the room? She said, oh, I was sent here by the U.S. State Department, by our American Embassy in Moscow. I said, well, this is a private meeting. Would you please leave?

Upon which, Madam Speaker, she took off her fur coat, took off her fur hat and placed her hat, coat, and pocketbook on the table we were meeting at and walked out of the room.

Now, Madam Speaker, I have met a lot of women in my life and I do not know of any women that go around leaving their pocketbooks in a room full of strangers. And I just wonder, Madam Speaker, if that pocketbook had something inside it that will allow someone else to listen or monitor what Skuratov was telling the Members of Congress that were in that meeting.

Sounds like a James Bond thriller. Well, sometimes I think this administration gets involved in James Bond types of activities, especially when someone is about to say something that might embarrass this administration in terms of our policy toward Russia.

Well, Madam Speaker, with the consent of the Members of Congress with me, I told the staff to remove the purse, remove the coat, remove the hat so that we could continue our meeting. And we did.

Madam Speaker, for 2½ hours Members of Congress and senior committee staff from the Committee on Banking and Financial Affairs, the Joint Economic Committee, and the Committee on Armed Services sat and listened to Skuratov tell an unbelievable story.

Now, Madam Speaker, I have the notes from both the trip and the meeting, which are available to any Member of Congress who wants them, which we have already given to our FBI about what Skuratov said. Let me just give my colleagues a few highlights, Madam Speaker, because I think the American people would have liked to have heard this tonight as a part of the State of the Union, why our relationship with Russia has turned so sour.

It is because, while we were reinforcing Yeltsin, the Russian people knew that Yeltsin and his cronies were ripping off hundreds of millions and billions of dollars of money that was supposed to go to help the Russian economy. This is what Skuratov said. He said that he had evidence not just to indict Yeltsin's daughter, Tatianna, but to even lead to Yeltsin himself that Skuratov was about to indict the senior members of Yeltsin's family and the senior leaders of the Russian Government when he was brought down and when the prosecutors with him were fired.

He said he also had evidence that up to 700 senior Russian officials, 700, were involved in insider GKO bond trading, meaning they were making money off of Russia's economic problems. While the U.S. and the West were bailing out Russia's economy with money from the IMF and the World Bank, 700 Russian officials were reaping the financial benefits of insider trading of GKO bonds.

□ 1500

He gave us one example. He said the foreign minister in Russia during his investigation he found was making an annual salary of between 4 to 5,000 rubles a month. That is not much money when we convert it to U.S. dollars. The foreign minister was making 4 to 5,000 rubles a month. Yet Skuratov had evidence that he was involved in insider bond trading in the millions of U.S. dollars. We have to ask the question, how could a person making 4 to 5,000 rubles a month get access to millions of U.S. dollars? He said that was the norm in the Russian government of Boris Yeltsin. He also told us that in the most recent IMF tranche of money that this country guaranteed to go into Russia, it was over $4 billion, that he could only account for about $300 million that went through the normal banking process in Russia, that over $4 billion of that IMF money did not go through the normal banking process that IMF funds would go through.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Skuratov went through a whole litany of the details of the investigation that he was in the midst of when he was fired. He told us that there is evidence in Russia and evidence available to document the ties to Russian criminal elements and in some cases U.S. institutions. We asked him, ''Well, what kind of cooperation did you get from our government?'' He said he had had one brief meeting with FBI Director Louis Freeh but no further subsequent meetings with the FBI. We have since met with the FBI, we have given them the information, and because I have the highest confidence in Director Freeh and his agency, we are convinced that he will use that information and pursue further information that Mr. Skuratov has identified for us. But, Madam Speaker, my point is a simple one. We will not hear that story tonight in the State of the Union. We will not hear the story about the instability in Russia. We will not hear the story, Madam

Speaker, about the billions of dollars of U.S. money that has been ripped off while we sat back and reinforced Yeltsin every step of the way with the Russian people losing confidence in its relationship between Russia and the U.S. We also will not hear this story, Madam Speaker, that I would like to see the President tell, the story of Lieutenant Jack Daley, a 15-year naval intelligence officer who was lasered 3 years ago by a Russian spy trawler called the Kapitan Man. Jack Daley was flying a surveillance mission monitoring Russian spy ships that were spying on our submarine fleet out in Puget Sound. During the mission where he was flying in a helicopter with a Canadian pilot, they both had a sensation in their eyes as they were taking photographs of this spy vessel. When they landed, they were taken to the base infirmary and were told that they had been lasered by a high-powered laser generator.

Madam Speaker, what we will not hear the President talk about tonight is the fact that our State Department interfered with our Defense Department and would not allow our DOD personnel to go on board that Russian ship until we had notified the embassy in Moscow that they had done something wrong. In fact, Bill Gertz in his book ''Betrayal'' revealed for the first time the classified cables that were sent between our embassy and the Moscow embassy, our State Department and our Department of Defense. So instead of protecting our own naval intelligence officer who had been lasered by a Russian spy ship, we were trying to make sure again, like we were with the money laundering, that Boris Yeltsin was not embarrassed. Then something terrible happened with Jack Daley's career. For 15 years he had been an outstanding sailor, given the highest awards that one can get in the Navy. But because he questioned why his government was not supporting him but instead protecting Russia and Boris Yeltsin's leadership, Jack Daley's career was almost brought to a grinding halt. In fact, Madam Speaker, he was bypassed for a promotion until bipartisan Members of Congress, people like the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS) and people like myself and others got involved, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), in Jack Daley's case and we said to this administration, ''You can't get away with ignoring harm done to an American soldier because you don't want to embarrass Boris Yeltsin and his relationship with Bill Clinton.''

When Jack Daley was bypassed this past summer a second time for his promotion, those of us in the Congress on both sides of the aisle following the case were livid and we demanded that our Defense Department protect our own military officer. In September of this year, finally, John Hamre, our Deputy Secretary of Defense, called me and he said, ''Congressman, I think you'll be happy. We had a special Navy panel review the Jack Daley case and he is being given his promotion.''

Madam Speaker, the point is that what we will not hear the President talk about tonight are the multitude of times that we have pretended reality was not what it is in Russia or in China, when we ignored arms control violations, 17 by the Russians, 20 by the Chinese over the past 7 years, when we had the hard evidence of deliberate arms control violations by both countries we pretended it did not happen because we did not want to upset the relationship between Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin or Bill Clinton and Jiang Zemin. We will not hear that story tonight, Madam Speaker, because the President will only talk about the glitz, he will only talk about the economy going well, he will pretend the world is safe, there are no problems.

He will not talk about the fact that he reversed himself on missile defense because the bipartisan Congress for 6 years every year passed overwhelmingly bipartisan measures demanding that this administration move to protect our troops and our people. He will not talk about the fact tonight that the day after last year's State of the Union speech when he did not talk about missile defense at all, he had Secretary of Defense Bill Cohen give a major foreign policy speech when he announced that we were in fact changing our position and now supportive of missile defense as a Nation. He probably will not talk about the fact that in last year's State of the Union speech he did not talk to any great length about the increasing threats from weapons of mass destruction or cyberterrorism but in fact the week after the State of the Union speech, he gave two speeches, one was on cyberterrorism and he said he would request billions of new dollars, and the second was on weapons of mass destruction and he again said he would request billions of dollars.

My point, Madam Speaker, is we are going to hear a good speech tonight. It is going to give the President a good bump in the polls. It is going to make the American people feel good because there is going to be something in it for everybody. We are going to praise people in the audience, we are going to applaud our troops as the best that have ever existed in the history of the country, we are going to talk about the economy and we are going to say everything is rosy, but we are not going to hear the kinds of things that I have outlined in my 1-hour special order today, Madam Speaker.

Again, there are things this President can take credit for and can share jointly with the success this Congress has had. But it is not just accepting success. He also has to be honest with the American people about problems we have not yet solved, about the failed relationships our country now has with China and Russia, about the fact that we are not properly funding the men and women serving our country and still have up to 20,000 young military men and women who have to receive food stamps because we do not pay them enough to take care of their families. These are the kinds of stories, as well as some of the others that I have talked about, that I would have hoped to hear from the State of the Union.

Madam Speaker, in going over these highlights tonight, I have focused every step of the way on the fact that our successes have been bipartisan in this body and the other body. None of our successes that I have outlined today, welfare reform, balanced budget, protecting Social Security, pushing education funds to local schools, trying to increase funds for our military, dignity in the way we enforce arms control agreements, none of those successes were Republican successes alone. Sure, the Republican majority allowed those bills to come to the floor, but in most cases, if not all, it was support from the Democrat side that helped those bills become reality and become the law of the land. We will not hear those stories tonight.

We are going to hear a one-word standup session about how great Bill Clinton has been for America for the past 7 years. And there are going to be those around the country who are going to say, if we just had control of the Congress, these are the Democrats now, we could do so much more.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I want to remind the American people of a simple basic fact that is irrefutable. For the past 50 years, since 1952, the party of President Clinton, the Democrat Party, has had a chance to govern America time and time again. Let us look at the history of this country. Under JFK, we had a Democrat President and a Democrat Congress. Under LBJ, we had a Democrat President and a Democrat Congress. Under Jimmy Carter, we had a Democrat President and a Democrat Congress. Under Bill Clinton, for the first 2 years, we had a Democrat President and a Democrat Congress. Madam Speaker, every American and every colleague needs to ask themselves, how many times in the last 50 years has the Republican Party had the President and the Congress? The answer, Madam Speaker, is zero. The Republican Party has not controlled the White House and the Congress since 1952.

Our message, Madam Speaker, is we have done good things over the past 5 years. Yes, the President will take credit for many of them tonight, from the balanced budget to welfare reform, to saving Social Security, to helping boost up our defense. He will take credit for all of them. But, Madam Speaker, imagine if the Republican Party for once in the next election cycle, after 50 years of not having a chance, had a chance to control the House, the Senate and the White House, something the Democrats have had time and again. Remember, Madam Speaker, when the Democrats controlled the

Congress and the White House, they did not protect Social Security. They did not reform welfare. They created bigger programs, out-of-control programs. They had the opportunity time and time again, and they drove this country into a massive deficit because they always controlled the Congress until 6 years ago.

So I would only hope tonight as we listen to the President's last State of the Union, and I know my colleagues will give him the respect that he is due as our Commander in Chief and as our President, while I may disagree with his policies and may disagree with some of his decisions, I respect the fact that he is our leader and he is our President and so I would hope, and I know that our colleagues will give him that respect tonight, but I only wanted to share, Madam Speaker, some thoughts of things that maybe could have been said, should have been said but will not be said tonight in this State of the Union speech for America for the new millennium.

Madam Speaker, I will include one further item. During our trip to Moscow, the leader of the Kurchatov Institute and a good friend of mine, Yevgeny Velikhov, gave a speech in our honor at a luncheon he hosted. It is important to understand who Yevgeny Velikhov is. He is the director of one of the largest institutes in Russia called Kurchatov Institute in Moscow. It is the institute that developed all of Russia's nuclear programs, their nuclear technology. Yevgeny gave a speech about relations between the U.S. and Russia that is absolutely unbelievable. My point in placing this speech in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at the end of my comments today, Madam Speaker, is that Yevgeny Velikhov represents mainstream Russia. Russian people want to be our friends. Russian leaders want to work with us. But we cannot have a policy as we have had over the past 7 years of being so enamored with Boris Yeltsin, or a personality, that we ignore the reality of what is occurring in that country, because if we do that again, the Russian people will have the same feeling toward us then as they have toward us now.

They have seen us ignore the corruption, they have seen us ignore the involvement of Yeltsin's own family and his friends in stealing money from the Russian people. They have seen America turn its back when we had evidence of the selling off of technology from Russian criminal elements to foreign nations. We have got to change that policy. People like Yevgeny Velikhov understand that. The future of our relationship with Russia I think can be bright as I think our relationship with China can be bright. There, as this past weekend I had a chance to speak to the Mid-Atlantic Monte Gade Society of Chinese Scientists, I said it is an absolute tragedy that this administration is blaming the whole fiasco over the Chinese technology transfer on one man who they claim stole technology. Instead of focusing on a Chinese or Asian American, this administration should look to itself and to its failed policies of allowing proliferation to occur and technology to be transferred legally to anyone who would pay the price.

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Madam Speaker, I would hope that as I close this special order today our colleagues will think beyond the rhetoric of what we are going to hear tonight and put our minds together to work, as we did in the last year of this session of the Congress, on some good initiatives, the kinds of things that we have passed, the kinds of foreign policy actions that we have taken, and drag the President along for the good of America into the new millennium and the 21st Century.

Madam Speaker, at this point I would enter into the RECORD another speech of Yevgeny Velikhov.

E.P. VELIKHOV'S SPEECH AT THE MEETING OF KURCHATOV INSTITUTE'S SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY WITH A GROUP OF USA CONGRESSMEN

Ladies and Gentlemen, we gathered in a memorable time when the ages are changing. This calendar event is being reinforced by one of the also important circumstance for the whole mankind: 2000 years of Christ's birthday.

His teaching changed our world. When the mankind was keeping to his commandments it progressed, but as soon as they were forgotten the mankind became sunken into deep crisis. And we, having achieved this century border, have got into this no way state.

Practically all the XX century beginning from 1917 and ending by 1990 year, we were living behind the ''iron curtain'' in the state of ideological confrontation. And all these years the idea to conquer the world has dominated as in the Soviet Union as well in the United States of America. But reasonable people from both sides (and their number was not small) understood that there are on the both sides of the ''iron curtain'' the real alive people, who were ready for cooperation. And overwhelming ideological barriers we were going toward each other creating step by step a bridge of confidence and understanding.

When almost 10 years ago the ''iron curtain'' has broken we hoped for a strengthening of this bridge, for the sound forces going through it in both direction. Unfortunately this has not happened. The ideology has broken, but in the result of this powerful ideological burst a foam appeared, which has flowed from us to the USA and from the USA to us.

Americans have felt on themselves what is the Russian crime, corruption, they saw ''new Russians'', our bankers, oligarchs, who have ''green cards'', huge amounts of money for villa construction, wealthy holidays. Exactly they became to represent the Russian face in the West. And the West has shuddered.

But we also have shuddered. Flow of the people, representing wrong side of American life, started into Russia. We have seen here your expert—economists, whose ideas have not been accepted in the USA as they were not perspective and harmful, but they have found a fertile soil in the Russia. We have seen in our space also American businessmen, who tried to involve us into adventure projects. I personally confronted one of such so called businessman, who proposed to cooperate in a major project on unlawful ground.

Certainly, the roots of many vices such as corruption, stealing, unlawful privatization, drags, pornography, prostitution, are situated also in our ground, but in many respect the people's awareness connect them to America and the USA is not accepted in Russia now as a prospering and educated society.

It seems that we have forgotten 10 Christian commandments. It appears on the border of centuries that a huge charge of mutual good will, which we have had at the end of 80-ty years, has been almost used up. And instead of the ''iron curtain'' we begin to construct a ''stinking trench'' behind the rusted barbed wire. Lets look at today's time: as earlier we threaten each other by nuclear restriction and think up limitations, sanctions. We appeared to be in a situation dangerous for the world at the end of XX century.

Meantime the USA and the Russia are playing today a huge role in the establishment of a stable and secure peace, democratic order. It is clear, that being in confrontation we can only negatively influence as on our countries as well on the world as a whole.

I would not like to be a pessimist. We have way out and we can see it if we return with open face to our youth. It is a new growing force of Russia, it is that base on which we can build the world and the order.

''Junior Achievements of Russia'' is gaining power by us. One million of young men and girls from 80 regions of Russia, who study economics, business and management are today in its ranks. After 5 years they will be 5 millions. And this is a great power, which is ready for democratic transformation in the country.

Altruism is laying in the base of their activity—one of the best features of Americans which the Russian youth has accepted and absorbed. As many Americans members of ''Junior Achievements'' see the highest sense to serve to the society.

Finally, we can learn in our new construction against our businessmen, who are heading this movement. They are those people who a faithful to the principles of ''pure business'' and they are true to their duty. They are ready to invest into creation of new society.

The resume from my speech suggests itself: experience which has come from ''the top'' appears to be not quite satisfactory. It came to us with the people who have forgotten the Christ's commandments. But we have sound forces, who not only accept them but they are leaving in accordance with them. We connect the Russia's future with them and the future of Russian-American relations.

I call upon to support the people who have the life principle to serve to the society.

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RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 8:40 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 8:40 p.m.)

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 8 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.

JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE HELD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 241 TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Jim Varey, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY);

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATTS);

The gentleman from California (Mr. COX);

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON);

The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE);

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT);

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST);

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ);

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BERRY); and

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT);

The Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES);

The Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND);

The Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG);

The Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER);

The Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON);

The Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE);

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);

The Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI);

The Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY);

The Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN);

The Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX);

The Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER);

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN); and

The Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG).

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Excellency Jesse B. Marehalau, Ambassador to the United States from Micronesia.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 9 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m., the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Wilson Livingood, announced the President of the United States.

The President of the United States, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you the President of the United States.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

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THE STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDENT. Thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Members of Congress, honored guests, my fellow Americans: We are fortunate to be alive at this moment in history. Never before has our Nation enjoyed, at once, so much prosperity and social progress with so little internal crisis and so few external threats. Never before have we had such a blessed opportunity and, therefore, such a profound obligation to build the more perfect union of our founders' dreams.

We begin the new century with over 20 million new jobs; the fastest economic growth in more than 30 years; the lowest unemployment rates in 30 years; the lowest poverty rates in 20 years; the lowest African-American and Hispanic unemployment rates on record; the first back-to-back surpluses in 42 years.

Next month, America will achieve the longest period of economic growth in our entire history.

We have built a new economy.

Our economic revolution has been matched by a revival of the American spirit: Crime down by 20 percent, to its lowest level in 25 years. Teen births down 7 years in a row. Adoptions up by 30 percent. Welfare rolls cut in half to their lowest levels in 30 years.

My fellow Americans, the state of our union is the strongest it has ever been.

As always, the real credit belongs to the American people.

My gratitude also goes to those of you in this Chamber who have worked with us to put progress over partisanship.

Eight years ago, it was not so clear to most Americans there would be much to celebrate in the year 2000. Then our Nation was gripped by economic distress, social decline, political gridlock. The title of a best-selling book that year asked: ''America: What Went Wrong?''

In the best traditions of our Nation, Americans determined to set things right. We restored the vital center, replacing outmoded ideologies with a new vision anchored in basic, enduring values: opportunity for all, responsibility from all, a community of all Americans.

We reinvented government, transforming it into a catalyst for new ideas that stress both opportunity and responsibility, and give our people the tools they need to solve their own problems.

With the smallest Federal workforce in 40 years, we turned record deficits into record surpluses, and doubled our investment in education. We cut crime: with 100,000 community police and the Brady Law, which has kept guns out of the hands of half a million criminals.

We ended welfare as we knew it, requiring work while protecting health care and nutrition for children, and investing more in child care, transportation, and housing to help their parents go to work. We have helped parents to succeed at home and at work with family leave, which 20 million Americans have now used to care for a newborn child or a sick loved one. We have engaged 150,000 young Americans in citizen service through AmeriCorps, while helping them earn money for college.

In 1992, we just had a roadmap. Today, we have results. Even more important, America again has the confidence to dream big dreams. But we must not let this confidence drift into complacency. For we, all of us, will be judged by the dreams and deeds we pass on to our children. And on that score, we will be held to a high standard, indeed. Because our chance to do good is so great.

My fellow Americans, we have crossed the bridge we built to the 21st century. Now, we must shape a 21st-century American revolution, of opportunity, responsibility, and community. We must be now, as we were in the beginning, a new Nation.

At the dawn of the last century, Theodore Roosevelt said, ''The one characteristic more essential than any other is foresight. It should be the growing nation with a future that takes the long look ahead.''

Tonight, let us take our long look ahead and set great goals for our Nation.

To 21st century America, let us pledge these things:

Every child will begin school ready to learn and graduate ready to succeed.

Every family will be able to succeed at home and at work, and no child will be raised in poverty. We will meet the challenge of the aging of America. We will assure quality, affordable health care at last for all Americans. We will make America the safest big country on earth. We will pay off our national debt for the first time since 1935. We will bring prosperity to every American community. We will reverse the course of climate change and leave a safer, cleaner planet. America will lead the world toward shared peace and prosperity, and the far frontiers of science and technology. And we will become at last what our founders pledged us to be so long ago: One Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

These are great goals, worthy of a great nation. We will not reach them all this year. Not even in this decade. But we will reach them. Let us remember that the first American revolution was not won with a single shot. The continent was not settled in a single year. The lesson of our history, and the lesson of the last 7 years, is that great goals are reached step by step: always building on our progress, always gaining ground.

Of course, you cannot gain ground if you are standing still. For too long this Congress has been standing still on some of our most pressing national priorities. So let us begin tonight with them.

Again, I ask you to pass a real Patients' Bill of Rights. I ask you to pass common sense gun safety legislation. I ask you to pass campaign finance reform. I ask you to vote up or down on judicial nominations and other important appointees; and, again, I ask you, I implore you, to raise the minimum wage.

Now, let me try to balance the seesaw here. Two years ago, as we reached across party lines to reach our first balanced budget, I asked that we meet our responsibility to the next generation by maintaining our fiscal discipline. Because we refused to stray from that path, we are doing something that would have seemed unimaginable 7 years ago. We are actually paying down the national debt.

Now, if we stay on this path, we can pay down the debt entirely in just 13 years now and make America debt-free for the first time since Andrew Jackson was President in 1835.

In 1993, we began to put our fiscal house in order with the Deficit Reduction Act, which you will all remember won passages in both Houses by just a single vote. Your former colleague, my first Secretary of the Treasury, led that effort and sparked our long boom. He is here with us tonight. Lloyd Bentsen, you have served America well; and we thank you.

Beyond paying off the debt, we must ensure that the benefits of debt reduction go to preserving two of the most important guarantees we make to every American, Social Security and Medicare. Tonight I ask you to work with me to make a bipartisan down payment on Social Security reform by crediting the interest savings from debt reduction to the Social Security Trust Fund so that it will be strong and sound for the next 50 years.

But this is just the start of our journey. We must also take the right steps toward reaching our great goals.

First and foremost, we need a 21st century revolution in education, guided by our faith that every single child can learn. Because education is more important than ever, more than ever the key to our children's future, we must make sure all of our children have that key. That means quality preschool and afterschool, the best trained teachers in the classroom and college opportunities for all our children.

For 7 years now, we have worked hard to improve our schools, with opportunity and responsibility: Investing more, but demanding more in return.

Reading, math and college entrance scores are up. Some of the most impressive gains are in schools in very poor neighborhoods. But all successful schools have followed the same proven formula: higher standards, more accountability and extra help so children who need it can get it to reach those standards.

I have sent Congress a reform plan based on that formula. It holds States and school districts accountable for progress and rewards them for results. Each year our national government invests more than $15 billion in our schools. It is time to support what works and stop supporting what does not.

Now, as we demand more from our schools, we should also invest more in our schools. Let us double our investment to help States and districts turn around their worst-performing schools, or shut them down. Let us double our investment in afterschool and summer school programs which boost achievement and keep people off the street and out of trouble. If we do this, we can give every single child in every failing school in America, everyone, the chance to meet high standards.

Since 1993, we have nearly doubled our investment in Head Start and improved its quality. Tonight, I ask you for another $1 billion for Head Start, the largest increase in the history of the program.

We know that children learn best in smaller classes with good teachers. For 2 years in a row, Congress has supported my plan to hire 100,000 new qualified teachers to lower class size in the early grades. I thank you for that, and I ask you to make it three in a row.

And to make sure all teachers know the subjects they teach, tonight I propose a new teacher quality initiative, to recruit more talented people into the classroom, reward good teachers for staying there and give all teachers the training they need.

We know charter schools provide real public school choice. When I became President, there was just one independent public charter school in all America. Today, thanks to you, there are 1,700. I ask you now to help us meet our goal of 3,000 charter schools by next year.

We know we must connect all our classrooms to the Internet, and we are getting there. In 1994, only 3 percent of our classrooms were connected. Today, with the help of the Vice President's E-rate program, more than half of them are; and 90 percent of our schools have at least one Internet connection.

But we cannot finish the job when a third of all our schools are in serious disrepair. Many of them have walls and wires so old they are too old for the Internet. So tonight I propose to help 5,000 schools a year to make immediate and urgent repairs and again to help build or modernize 6,000 more, to get students out of trailers and into high-tech classrooms.

I ask all of you to help me double our bipartisan GEAR UP program, which provides mentors for disadvantaged young people. If we double it, we can provide mentors for 1.4 million of them. Let us also offer these kids from disadvantaged backgrounds the same chance to take the same college test-prep courses wealthier students use to boost their test scores.

Thank you.

To make the American dream achievable for all, we must make college affordable for all. For 7 years, on a bipartisan basis, we have taken action toward that goal: larger Pell grants, more affordable student loans, education IRAs and our HOPE scholarships which have already benefited 5 million young people. Now, 67 percent of high school graduates are going on to college. That is up 10 percent since 1993. Yet millions of families still strain to pay college tuition. They need help.

So I propose a landmark $30 billion college opportunity tax cut, a middle-class tax deduction for up to $10,000 in college tuition costs. The previous actions of this Congress have already made 2 years of college affordable for all. It is time to make 4 years of college affordable for all.

If we take all of these steps, we will move a long way toward making sure every child starts school ready to learn and graduates ready to succeed.

We also need a 21st century revolution to reward work and strengthen families by giving every parent the tools to succeed at work and at the most important work of all, raising children. That means making sure every family has health care and the support to care for aging parents, the tools to bring their children up right and that no child grows up in poverty.

From my first days as President, we have worked to give families better access to better health care. In 1997, we passed the Children's Health Insurance Program, CHIP, so that workers who do not have coverage through their employers at least can get it for their children. So far, we have enrolled 2

million children. We are well on our way to our goal of 5 million, but there are still more than 40 million of our fellow Americans without health insurance, more than there were in 1993.

Tonight I propose that we follow Vice President Gore's suggestion to make low-income parents eligible for the insurance that covers their children. Together with our children's initiative, think of this, together with our children's initiative, this action would enable us to cover nearly a quarter of all the uninsured people in America.

Again, I want to ask you to let people between the ages of 55 and 65, the fastest growing group of uninsured, buy into Medicare. And this year I propose to give them a tax credit to make that choice an affordable one. I hope you will support that, as well.

When the Baby Boomers retire, Medicare will be faced with caring for twice as many of our citizens. Yet, it is far from ready to do so. My generation must not ask our children's generation to shoulder our burden. We simply must act now to strengthen and modernize Medicare.

My budget includes a comprehensive plan to reform Medicare to make it more efficient and more competitive. And it dedicates nearly $400 billion of our balanced budget surplus to keep Medicare solvent past 2025; and, at long last, it also provides funds to give every senior a voluntary choice of affordable coverage for prescription drugs.

Lifesaving drugs are an indispensable part of modern medicine. No one creating a Medicare program today would even think of excluding coverage for prescription drugs. Yet, more than three in five of our seniors now lack dependable drug coverage which can lengthen and enrich their lives. Millions of older Americans who need prescription drugs the most pay the highest prices for them.

In good conscience, we cannot let another year pass without extending to all our seniors this lifeline of affordable prescription drugs.

Record numbers of Americans are providing for aging or ailing loved ones at home. It is a loving but a difficult and often very expensive choice. Last year, I proposed a $1,000 tax credit for long-term care. Frankly, it was not enough. This year, let us triple it to $3,000, but this year, let us pass it.

We also have to make needed investments to expand access to mental health care. I want to take a moment to thank the person who led our first White House Conference on Mental Health last year, and who for 7 years has led all our efforts to break down the barriers to decent treatment of people with mental illness. Thank you, Tipper Gore.

Taken together, these proposals would mark the largest investment in health care in the 35 years since Medicare was created, the largest investment in 35 years. That would be a big step toward assuring quality health care for all Americans, young and old, and I ask you to embrace them and pass them.

We must also make investments that reward work and support families. Nothing does that better than the earned income tax credit, the EITC. The E in the EITC is about earning, working, taking responsibility, and being rewarded for it. In my very first address to you, I asked Congress to greatly expand this credit, and you did. As a result, in 1998 alone, the EITC helped more than 4.3 million Americans work their way out of poverty toward the middle class. That is double the number in 1993.

Tonight, I propose another major expansion of the EITC, to reduce the marriage penalty, to make sure it rewards marriage as it rewards work, and also to expand the tax credit for families that have more than two children. It punishes those with more than two children today. Our proposal would allow families with three or more children to get up to $1,100 more in tax relief. These are working families. Their children should not be in poverty.

We also cannot reward work and family unless men and women get equal pay for equal work. Today the female unemployment rate is the lowest it has been in 46 years. Yet, women still only earn about 75 cents for every dollar men earn. We must do better by providing the resources to enforce present equal pay laws, training more women for high-paying, high-tech jobs, and passing the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Many working parents spend up to a quarter, a quarter of their income on child care. Last year we helped parents provide child care for about 2 million children. My child care initiative before you now, along with funds already secured in welfare reform, would make child care better, safer, and more affordable for another 400,000 children. I ask you to pass that. They need it out there in America.

For hard-pressed middle-income families, we should also expand the child care tax credit, and I believe strongly we should take the next big step and make that tax credit refundable for low-income families. For people making under $30,000, that could mean up to $2,400 for child care costs. We all say we are pro-work and pro-family. Passing this proposal would prove it.

Tens of millions of Americans live from paycheck to paycheck. As hard as they work, they still do not have the opportunity to save. Too few can make use of IRAs and 401(k) plans. We should do more to help all working families save and accumulate wealth. That is the idea behind the so-called Individual Development Accounts, the IDAs.

I ask you to take that idea to a new level, with new retirement savings accounts that enable every low- and moderate-income family in America to save for retirement, a first home, a medical emergency, or a college education. I propose to match their contributions, however small, dollar for dollar, every year they save. And I propose to give a major new tax credit to any small business that will provide a meaningful pension to its workers. Those people ought to have retirement as well as the rest of us.

Nearly one in three American children grows up without a father. These children are five times more likely to live in poverty than children with both parents at home. Clearly, demanding and supporting responsible fatherhood is critical to lifting all of our children out of poverty. We have doubled child support collections since 1992, and I am proposing to use tough new measures to hold still more fathers responsible.

But we should recognize that a lot of fathers want to do right by their children, but need help to do it. Carlos Rosas of St. Paul, Minnesota, wanted to do right by his son, and he got the help to do it. Now he has a good job and he supports his little boy. My budget will help 40,000 more fathers make the same choices Carlos Rosas did. I thank him for being here tonight. Stand up, Carlos. Thank you.

If there is any single issue on which we should be able to reach across party lines, it is in our common commitment to reward work and strengthen families. Let us remember what we did last year. We came together to help people with disabilities keep their health insurance when they go to work. I thank you for that.

Thanks to overwhelming bipartisan support from this Congress, we have improved foster care. We have helped those young people who leave it when they turn 18, and we have dramatically increased the number of foster care children going into adoptive homes. I thank all of you for all of that.

Of course, I am forever grateful to the person who has led our efforts from the beginning, and who has worked so tirelessly for children and families for 30 years now: my wife, Hillary. Thank you, Hillary.

If we take the steps I have just discussed, we can go a long, long way toward empowering parents to succeed at home and at work, and ensuring that no child is raised in poverty. We can make these vital investments in health care, education, support for working families, and still offer tax cuts to help pay for college, for retirement, to care for aging parents, to reduce the marriage penalty. We can do these things without forsaking the path of fiscal discipline that got us here tonight.

Indeed, we must make these investments and these tax cuts in the context of a balanced budget that strengthens and extends the life of social security and Medicare and pays down the national debt.

Crime in America has dropped for the past 7 years. That is the longest decline on record, thanks to a national consensus we helped to forge on community police, sensible gun safety laws, and effective prevention.

But nobody, nobody here, nobody in America, believes we are safe enough.

So again, I ask you to set a higher goal. Let us make this country the safest big country in the world.

Now, last fall Congress supported my plan to hire, in addition to the 100,000 community police we have already funded, 50,000 more, concentrated in high crime neighborhoods. I ask your continued support for that.

Soon after the Columbine tragedy, Congress considered common-sense gun legislation to require Brady background checks at the gun shows, child safety locks for new handguns and a ban on the importation of large-capacity ammunition clips. With courage, and a tie-breaking vote for the Vice President, the Senate faced down the gun lobby, stood up for the American people and passed this legislation. But the House failed to follow suit.

Now, we have all seen what happens when guns fall into the wrong hands. Daniel Mauser was only 15 years old when he was gunned down at Columbine. He was an amazing kid, a straight-A student, a good skier. Like all parents who lose their children, his father, Tom, has borne unimaginable grief. Somehow he has found the strength to honor his son by transforming his grief into action.

Earlier this month, he took a leave of absence from his job to fight for tougher gun safety laws. I pray that his courage and wisdom will at long last move this Congress to make common-sense gun legislation the very next order of business. Tom Mauser, stand up. We thank you for being here tonight, Tom. Thank you, Tom.

We must strengthen our gun laws and enforce those already on the books better. Federal gun crime prosecutions are up 16 percent since I took office, but we must do more. I propose to hire more Federal and local gun prosecutors and more ATF agents to crack down on illegal gun traffickers and bad-apple dealers and we must give them the enforcement tools that they need. Tools to trace every gun and every bullet used in every gun crime in the United States. I ask you to help us do that.

Every State in this country already requires hunters and automobile drivers to carry a license. I think they ought to do the same thing for handgun purchases. Now, specifically, I propose a plan to ensure that all new handgun buyers must first have a photo license from their State showing they passed the Brady background check and a gun safety course before they get the gun. I hope you will help me pass that in this Congress.

Listen to this: the accidental gun death rate of children under 15 in the United States is nine times higher than in the other 25 industrialized countries combined. Technologies now exist that could lead to guns that could only be fired by the adults who own them. I ask Congress to fund research into Smart Gun technology to save these children's lives. I ask responsible leaders in the gun industry to work with us on smart guns and other steps to keep guns out of the wrong hands and keep our children safe.

Every parent I know worries about the impact of violence in the media on their children. I want to begin by thanking the entertainment industry for accepting my challenge to put voluntary ratings on TV programs and video and Internet games. But, frankly, the ratings are too numerous, diverse and confusing to be really useful to parents. So tonight I ask the industry to accept the First Lady's challenge, to develop a single voluntary rating system for all children's entertainment that is easier for parents to understand and enforce.

The steps I outline will take us well on our way to making America the safest big country in the world.

Now, to keep our historic economic expansion going, the subject of a lot of discussion in this community and others, I believe we need a 21st century revolution to open new markets, start new businesses, hire new workers right here in America. In our inner-cities, poor, rural areas and Native American reservations.

Our Nation's prosperity has not yet reached these places. Over the last 6 months I have traveled to a lot of them, joined by many of you and many farsighted businesspeople, to shine a spotlight on the enormous potential in communities from Appalachia to the Mississippi Delta, from Watts to the Pine Ridge Reservation. Everywhere I have gone I have met talented people eager for opportunity and able to work. Tonight I ask you: Let us put them to work.

For business, it is the smart thing to do. For America, it is the right thing to do. And let me ask you something. If we do not do this now, when in the wide world will we ever get around to it?

So I ask Congress to give businesses the same incentives to invest in America's new markets they now have to invest in markets overseas. Tonight, I propose a large New Markets Tax Credit and other incentives to spur $22 billion in private sector capital to create new businesses and new investments in our inner-cities and rural areas.

I also, because empowerment zones have been creating these opportunities for 5 years now, I also ask you to increase incentives to invest in them and to create more of them. And let me say to all of you again what I have tried to say at every turn: This is not a Democratic or a Republican issue. Giving people a chance to live their dreams is an American issue.

Mr. Speaker, it was a powerful moment last November when you joined the Reverend Jesse Jackson and me in your home State of Illinois and committed to working toward our common goal by combining the best ideas from both sides of the aisle. I want to thank you again and to tell you, Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with you. This is a worthy joint endeavor. Thank you.

I also ask you to make special efforts to address the areas of our Nation with the highest rates of poverty, our Native American reservations and the Mississippi Delta. My budget includes a $110 million initiative to promote economic development in the Delta; and $1 billion to increase economic opportunity, health care, education and law enforcement for our Native American communities.

Now, in this new century, we should begin this new century by honoring our historic responsibility to empower the first Americans. And I want to thank tonight the leaders and the Members from both parties who have expressed to me an interest in working with us on these efforts. They are profoundly important.

There is another part of our American community in trouble tonight, our family farmers. When I signed the Farm Bill in 1996, I said there was great danger it would work well in good times but not in bad. Well, droughts, floods and historically low prices have made these times very bad for the farmers. We must work together to strengthen the farm safety net, invest in land conservation, and create some new markets for them by expanding our programs for bio-based fuels and products. Please, they need help. Let us do it together.

Opportunity for all requires something else today: having access to a computer and knowing how to use it. That means we must close the digital divide between those who have the tools and those who do not.

Connecting classrooms and libraries to the Internet is crucial, but it is just a start. My budget ensures that all new teachers are trained to teach 21st century skills and it creates technology centers in 1,000 communities to serve adults. This spring, I will invite high-tech leaders to join me on another New Markets tour to close the digital divide and open opportunity for our people.

I want to thank the high-tech companies that already are doing so much in this area, and I hope the new tax incentives I have proposed will get all the rest of them to join us. This is a national crusade. We have got to do this and do it quickly.

Now, again, I say to you these are steps, but step by step we can go a long way toward our goal of bringing opportunity to every community.

To realize the full possibilities of this economy, we must reach beyond our own borders to shape the revolution that is tearing down barriers and building new networks among nations and individuals, economies, and cultures: Globalization. It is the central reality of our time.

Of course, change this profound is both liberating and threatening to people. But there is no turning back. And our open, creative society stands to benefit more than any other if we understand and act on the realities of interdependence. We have to be at the center of every vital global network as

a good neighbor and a good partner. We have to recognize that we cannot build our future without helping others to build theirs.

The first thing we have got to do is to forge a new consensus on trade. Those of us who believe passionately in the power of open trade, we have to ensure that it lifts both our living standards and our values, never tolerating abusive child labor or a race to the bottom in the environment and worker protection. But others must recognize that open markets and rules-based trade are the best engines we know of for raising living standards, reducing global poverty and environmental destruction, and assuring the free flow of ideas.

I believe as strongly tonight as I did the first day I got here, the only direction for America on trade is to keep going forward. I ask you to help me forge that consensus.

We have to make developing economies our partners in prosperity. That is why I would like to ask you again to finalize our ground-breaking African and Caribbean Basin trade initiatives.

But globalization is about more than economics. Our purpose must be to bring together the world around freedom, democracy, and peace and to oppose those who would tear it apart.

Here are the fundamental challenges I believe America must meet to shape the 21st century world:

First, we must continue to encourage our former adversaries, Russia and China, to emerge as stable, prosperous, democratic nations. Both are being held back today from reaching their full potential, Russia by the legacy of communism, an economy in turmoil, a cruel and self-defeating war in Chechnya; China by the illusion that it can buy stability at the expense of freedom.

But think how much has changed in the past decade. Five thousand former Soviet nuclear weapons taken out of commission, Russian soldiers actually served with us in the Balkans, Russian people electing their leaders for the first time in 1,000 years. In China, an economy more open to the world than ever before. Of course no one, not a single person in this Chamber tonight, can know for sure what direction these great nations will take. But we do know for sure that we can choose what we do. We should do everything in our power to increase the chance that they will choose wisely, to be constructive members of our global community.

That is why we should support those Russians who are struggling for a democratic, prosperous future, continue to reduce both our nuclear arsenals and help Russia to safeguard weapons and materials that remain.

That is why I believe Congress should support the agreement we negotiated to bring China into the WTO by passing permanent normal trade relations with China as soon as possible this year.

I think you ought to do it for two reasons. First of all, our markets are already open to China. This agreement will open China's markets to us. Second, it will plainly advance the cause of peace in Asia and promote the cause of change in China.

No, we do not know where it is going. All we can do is decide what we are going to do. But when all is said and done, we need to know we did everything we possibly could to maximize the chance that China will choose the right future.

A second challenge we have got is to protect our own security from conflicts that pose the risk of wider war and threaten our common humanity. We cannot prevent every conflict or stop every outrage. But where our interests are at stake and we can make a difference, we should be and we must be peacemakers.

We should be proud of our role in bringing the Middle East closer to a lasting peace, building peace in Northern Ireland, working for peace in East Timor and Africa, promoting reconciliation between Greece and Turkey and in Cyprus, working to defuse these crises between India and Pakistan and defending human rights and religious freedom.

We should be proud of our men and women in our armed forces and those of our allies who stopped the ethnic cleansing in Kosovo, enabling a million people to return to their homes.

When Slobodan Milosevic unleashed his terror on Kosovo, Captain John Cherrey was one of the brave airmen who turned the tide. When another American plane was shot down over Serbia, he flew into the teeth of enemy air defenses to bring his fellow pilot home. Thanks to our armed forces' skill and bravery, we prevailed in Kosovo without losing a single American in combat.

I want to introduce Captain Cherrey to you. We honor Captain Cherrey. We promise you, Captain, we will finish the job you began. Stand up so we can see you.

A third challenge we have is to keep this inexorable march of technology from giving terrorists and potentially hostile nations the means to undermine our defenses. Keep in mind the same technological advances that have shrunk cell phones to fit in the palms of our hands can also make weapons of terror easier to conceal and easier to use.

We must meet this threat by making effective agreements to restrain nuclear and missile programs in North Korea, curbing the flow of lethal technology to Iran, preventing Iraq from threatening its neighbors, increasing our preparedness against chemical and biological attack, protecting our vital computer systems from hackers and criminals, and developing a system to defend against new missile threats while working to preserve our ABM missile treaty with Russia.

We must do all these things. I predict to you, when most of us are long gone but sometime in the next 10 to 20 years, the major security threat this country will face will come from the enemies of the nation's state, the narcotrafficers, the terrorists and organized criminals who will be organized together, working together with increasing access to ever more sophisticated chemical and biological weapons.

I want to thank the Pentagon and others for doing what they are doing right now to try to help protect us and plan for that so our defenses will be strong. I ask for your support so that they can succeed.

I also want to ask you for a constructive bipartisan dialogue this year to work to build a consensus which I hope will eventually lead to the ratification of the comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.

I hope we can also have a constructive effort to meet the challenge that is presented to our planet by the huge gulf between rich and poor. We cannot accept a world in which part of humanity lives on the cutting edge of a new economy and the rest live on the bare edge of survival. I think we have to do our part to change that with expanded trade, expanded aid, and the expansion of freedom.

This is interesting. From Nigeria to Indonesia, more people fought for the right to choose their leaders in 1999 than in 1989 when the Berlin Wall fell. We have got to stand by these democracies, including, and especially tonight, Colombia, which is fighting narcotraffickers for its own people's lives and for our children's lives.

I have proposed a strong 2-year package to help Colombia win this fight. I want to thank the leaders and both parties in both Houses for listening to me and the President of Colombia about it. We have got to pass this. I want to ask your help. A lot is riding on it. It is so important for the long-term stability of our country and for what happens in Latin America.

I also want you to know I am going to send you new legislation to go after what these drug barons value the most, their money. And I hope you will pass that as well.

Now, in a world where over a billion people live on less than a dollar a day, we also have got to do our part in the global endeavor to reduce the debts of the poorest countries so they can invest in education, health care and economic growth. That is what the Pope and other religious leaders have urged us to do. Last year, Congress made a down payment on America's share. I ask you to continue that. I thank you for what you did and ask you to stay the course.

I also want to say that America must help more nations to break the bonds of disease. Last year, in Africa, 10 times as many people died from AIDS as were killed in wars, 10 times. The budget I give you invests $150 million more in the fight against this and other infectious killers. Today, I propose a tax credit to speed the development of vaccines to diseases like malaria, TB, and AIDS. I ask the private

sector and our partners around the world to join us in embracing this cause. We can save millions of lives together, and we ought to do it.

I also want to mention our final challenge which, as always, is the most important. I ask you to pass a national security budget that keeps our military the best trained and best equipped in the world, with heightened readiness and 21st century weapons, which raises salaries for our service men and women, which protects our veterans, which fully funds the diplomacy that keeps our soldiers out of war, which makes good on our commitment to our UN dues and arrears. I ask you to pass this budget.

I also want to say something, if I might, very personal tonight. The American people watching us at home, with the help of all the commentators, can tell from who stands and who sits and who claps and who does not that there is still modest differences of opinion in this room.

But I want to thank you for something, every one of you. I want to thank you for the extraordinary support you have given, Republicans and Democrats alike, to our men and women in uniform. I thank you for it.

I also want to thank especially two people. First, I want to thank our Secretary of Defense Bill Cohen for symbolizing our bipartisan commitment to national security. Thank you so much. Even more, I want to thank his wife Janet who, more than any other American citizen, has tirelessly traveled this world to show the support we all feel for our troops. Thank you, Janet Cohen. I appreciate it. Thank you.

These are the challenges we have to meet so that we can lead the world toward peace and freedom in an era of globalization.

I want to tell you that I am very grateful for many things as President. But one of the things I am grateful for is the opportunity that the Vice President and I have had to finally put to rest the bogus idea that you cannot grow the economy and protect the environment at the same time.

As our economy has grown, we have rid more than 500 neighborhoods of toxic waste, ensured cleaner air and water for millions of people. In the past 3 months alone, we have helped preserve 40 million acres of roadless lands in the National Forests, created three new national monuments.

But as our communities grow, our commitment to conservation must continue to grow. Tonight I propose creating a permanent conservation fund to restore our wildlife, protect coastlines, save natural treasures, from the California redwoods to the Florida Everglades. This Lands Legacy endowment would represent by far the most enduring investment and land preservation ever proposed in this House.

I hope we can get together with all the people with different ideas and do this. This is a gift we should give to our children and grandchildren for all time across party lines. We can make an agreement to do this.

Last year, the Vice President launched a new effort to make communities more liberal—livable. Liberal, I know. No. Wait a minute. I have got a punch line now. That is this year's agenda. Last year was livable, right? That is what Senator LOTT is going to say in the commentary afterwards.

To make our communities more livable. This is big business. This is a big issue. What does that mean? You ask anybody that lives in an unlivable community, and they will tell you. They want their kids to grow up next to parks, not parking lots. The parents do not want to have to spend all their time stalled in traffic when they can be home with their children.

Tonight I ask you to support new funding for the following things to make American communities more liberal—livable. I have done pretty well with this speech, but I cannot say that right.

One, I want to help us to do three things. We need more funding for advanced transit systems. We need more funding for saving open spaces in places of heavy development. And we need more funding, this ought to have bipartisan appeal, we need more funding for helping major cities around the Great Lakes protect their waterways and enhance their quality of life. We need these things, and I want you to help us.

Now, the greatest environmental challenge in the new century is global warming. The scientists tell us the 1990s were the hottest decade of the entire millennium. If we fail to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, deadly heatwaves and droughts will become more frequent, coastal areas will flood, and economies will be disrupted. That is going to happen unless we act.

Many people in the United States, some people in this Chamber, and lots of folks around the world still believe you cannot cut greenhouse gas emissions without slowing economic growth.

In the Industrial Age that may well have been true. But in this digital economy, it is not true anymore. New technologies make it possible to cut harmful emissions and provide even more growth.

For example, just last week, automakers unveiled cars that get 70 to 80 miles a gallon, the fruits of a unique research partnership between government and industry. Before you know it, efficient production of biofuels will give us the equivalent of hundreds of miles from a gallon of gasoline.

To speed innovation in these kinds of technologies, I think we should give a major tax incentive to business for the production of clean energy and the families for buying energy saving homes and appliances and the next generation of super-efficient cars when they hit the showroom floor.

I also ask the auto industry to use the available technologies to make all new cars more fuel efficient right away. And I ask this Congress to do something else. Please help us make more of our clean energy technology available to the developing world. That will create cleaner growth abroad and a lot more new jobs here in the United States of America.

Now, in the new century innovations in science and technology will be key not only to the health of the environment but to miraculous improvements in the quality of our lives and advances in the economy.

Later this year, researchers will complete the first draft of the entire human genome, the very blueprint of life. It is important for all our fellow Americans to recognize that Federal tax dollars have funded much of this research and that this and otherwise investments in science are leading to a revolution in our ability to detect, treat, and prevent disease.

For example, researchers have identified genes that cause Parkinson's, diabetes, and certain kinds of cancer. They are designing precision therapies that will block the harmful effects of these genes for goods.

Researchers already are using this new technique to target and destroy cells that cause breast cancer. Soon we may be able to use it to prevent the onset of Alzheimer's.

Scientists are also working on an artificial retina to help many blind people to see. And listen to this. Microchips that would actually directly stimulate damaged spinal cords in a way that could allow people now paralyzed to stand up and walk.

These kinds of innovations are also propelling our remarkable prosperity. Information technology only includes 8 percent of our employment. But now it accounts for a third of our economic growth, along with jobs that pay, by the way, about 80 percent above the private sector average.

Again, we ought to keep in mind government funded research brought supercomputers to the Internet and communication satellites into being. Soon researchers will bring us devices that can translate foreign languages as fast as you can talk; materials 10 times stronger than steel at a fraction of the weight; and this is unbelievable to me, molecular computers the size of a teardrop with the power of today's fastest supercomputers.

To accelerate the march of discovery across all these disciplines of science and technology, I ask you to support my recommendation of an unprecedented $3 billion in the 21st century research fund, the largest increase in civilian research in a generation. We owe it to our future.

Now, these new breakthroughs have to be used in ways that reflect our values. First and foremost, we have to safeguard our citizens' privacy.

Last year, we proposed to protect every citizen's medical records. This year we will finalize those rules. We have also taken the first steps to protect the privacy of banks and credit

card records and other financial statements. Soon I will send legislation to you to finish that job.

We must also act to prevent any genetic discrimination whatever by employers or insurers. I hope you will support that.

These steps will allow us to lead toward the far frontiers of science and technology. They will enhance our health, the environment, the economy in ways we cannot even imagine today.

But we all know that at a time when science technology and the forces of globalization are bringing so many changes into all our lives, it is more important than ever that we strengthen the bonds that root us in our local communities and in our national community. No tie binds different people together like citizen service.

There is a new spirit of service in America, a movement we try to support with AmeriCorps, expanded Peace Corps, unprecedented new partnerships with businesses, foundations, community groups, partnerships, for example, like the one that enlisted 12,000 companies which have now moved 650,000 of our fellow citizens from welfare to work, partnerships to battle drug abuse, AIDS, teach young people to read, save America's treasures, strengthen the arts, fight teen pregnancy, prevent violence among young people, promote racial healing.

The American people are working together. But we should do more to help Americans help each other. First, we should help faith-based organizations to do more to fight poverty and drug abuse and help people get back on the right track with initiatives like second chance homes that do so much to help unwed teen mothers.

Second, we should support Americans who tithe and contribute to charities but do not earn enough to claim a tax deduction for it.

Tonight I propose new tax incentives that would allow low- and middle-income citizens who do not itemize to get that deduction. It is nothing but fair, and it will get more people to give.

We should do more to help new immigrants to fully participate in our community. That is why I recommend spending more to teach them civics and English. And since everybody in our community counts, we have got to make sure everyone is counted in this year's census.

Now, within 10 years, just 10 years, there will be no majority race in our largest State of California. In a little more than 50 years, there will be no majority race in America. In a more interconnected world, this diversity can be our greatest strength.

Just look around this Chamber, look around. We have Members in this Congress from virtually every racial, ethnic, and religious background. And I think you would agree that America is stronger because of it. But you will also have to agree that all those differences you just clapped for all too often spark hatred and division, even here at home.

Just in the last couple of years, we have seen a man dragged to death in Texas just because he was black. We saw a young man murdered in Wyoming just because he was gay. Last year we saw the shootings of African Americans, Asian Americans, and Jewish children just because of who they were.

This is not the American way, and we must draw the line. I ask you to draw that line by passing without delay the Hate Crimes Prevention Act and the Employment Nondiscrimination Act. And I ask you to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act.

Finally, tonight I propose the largest ever investment in our civil rights laws for enforcement because no American should be subjected to discrimination in finding a home, getting a job, going to school, or securing a loan. Protections in law should be protections in fact.

Last February, because I thought this was so important, I created the White House Office of One America to promote racial reconciliation. That is what one of my personal heroes, Hank Aaron, has done all his life. From his days as our all-time homerun king to his recent acts of healing, he has always brought people together. We should follow his example. We are honored to have him with us tonight. Stand up, Hank Aaron.

I just want to say one more thing about this, and I want every one of you to think about this the next time you get mad at one of your colleagues on the other side of the aisle. This fall, at the White House, Hillary had one of her millennium dinners and we had this very distinguished scientist there who was an expert in this whole work in the human genome; and he said that we are all, regardless of race, genetically 99.9 percent the same.

Now, you may find that uncomfortable when you look around here. But it is worth remembering. We can laugh about this, but you think about it. Modern science has confirmed what ancient fates has also taught us, the most important fact of life is our common humanity. Therefore, we should do more than just tolerate our diversity. We should honor it and celebrate it.

Thank you.

My fellow Americans, every time I prepare for the State of the Union, I approach it with hope and expectation and excitement for our Nation. But tonight is very special, because we stand on the mountaintop of a new millennium. Behind us, we can look back and see the great expanse of American achievement, and before us we can see even greater, grander frontiers of possibility. We should, all of us, be filled with gratitude and humility for our present progress and prosperity. We should be filled with awe and joy at what lies over the horizon, and we should be filled with absolute determination to make the most of it.

You know, when the framers finished crafting our Constitution in Philadelphia, Benjamin Franklin stood in Independence Hall and he reflected on the carving of the sun. It was on the back of a chair he saw. The sun was low on the horizon, so he said this. He said, I have often wondered whether that sun was rising or setting. Today, Franklin said, I have the happiness to know it is a rising sun.

Today, because each succeeding generation of Americans has kept the fire of freedom burning brightly, lighting those frontiers of possibility, we all still bask in the glow and the warmth of Mr. Franklin's rising sun. After 224 years, the American revolution continues. We remain a new Nation. And as long as our dreams outweigh our memories, America will be forever young. That is our destiny. And this is our moment.

Thank you, God bless you. And God bless America.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 10 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m. the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet;

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

□

JOINT SESSION DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint session of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m., the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

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MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

□

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. RIVERS (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of inclement weather.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. SHAYS (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of illness.

Ms. CARSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business in the district.

Mr. MCNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of inclement weather.

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SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WELLER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at her own request) to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

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SENATE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS REFERRED

Bills and Concurrent Resolutions of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 244. An act to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 276. An act for the relief of Sergio Lozano; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 302. An act for the relief of Kerantha Poole-Christian; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 348. An act to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance training, research and development, energy conservation and efficiency, and consumer education in the oilheat industry for the benefit of oilheat consumers and the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 366. An act to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro as a National Historic Trail; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 439. An act to amend the National Forest and Public Lands of Nevada Enhancement Act of 1988 to adjust the boundary of the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 486. An act to provide for the punishment of methamphetamine laboratory operators, provide additional resources to combat methamphetamine production, trafficking, and abuse in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary; in addition to the Committee on Commerce for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 501. An Act to address resource management issues in Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska; to the Committee on Resource.

S. 624. An Act to authorize construction of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System in the State of Montana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 692. An Act to prohibit Internet gambling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 698. An Act to review the suitability and feasibility of recovering costs of high altitude rescues at Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 710. An Act to authorize a feasibility study on the preservation of certain Civil War battlefields along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 711. An Act to allow for the investment of joint Federal and State funds from the civil settlement of damages from the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 734. An Act entitled ''National Discovery Trails Act of 1999''; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 748. An Act to improve Native hiring and contracting by the Federal Government within the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 769. An Act to provide a final settlement on certain debt owed by the city of Dickinson, North Dakota, for construction of the bascule gates on the Dickinson Dam; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 961. An Act to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to improve shared appreciation arrangements; to the Committee on Agriculture.

S. 964. An Act to provide for equitable compensation for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 986. An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Griffith Project to the Southern Nevada Water Authority; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1019. An act for the relief of Regine Beatie Edwards; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 1030. An act to provide that the conveyance by the Bureau of Land Management of the surface estate to certain land in the State of Wyoming in exchange for certain private land will not result in the removal of the land from operation of the mining laws; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1088. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain administrative sites in national forests in the State of Arizona, to convey certain land to the City of Sedona, Arizona for a wastewater treatment facility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1117. An act to establish the Corinth Unit of Shiloh National Military Park, in the vinicity of the city of Corinth, Mississippi, and in the State of Tennessee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1119. An act to amend the Act of August 9, 1950, to continue funding of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1211. An act to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to authorize additional measures to carry out the control of salinity upstream of Imperial Dam in a cost-effective manner; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1236. An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for commencement of the construction of the Arrowrock Dam Hydroelectric Project in the State of Idaho; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1243. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the prostate cancer preventive health program; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1268. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide support for the modernization and construction of biomedical and behavioral research facilities and laboratory instrumentation; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1275. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to produce and sell products and to sell publications relating to the Hoover Dam, and to deposit revenues generated from the sales into the Colorado River Dam fund; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1288. An act to provide incentives for collaborative forest restoration projects on National Forest System and other public lands in New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1295. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 3813 Main Street in East Chicago, Indiana, as the ''Lance Corporal Harold Gomez Post Office''; to the Committee on Government Reform.

S. 1296. An act to designate portions of the lower Delaware River and associated tributaries as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1324. An act to expand the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park to include the Wills House, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1329. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to Nye County, Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1330. An act to give the city of Mesquite, Nevada, the right to purchase at fair market value certain parcels of public land in the city; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1349. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resource studies to determine the national significance of specific sites as well as the suitability and feasibility of their inclusion as units of the National Park System; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1374. An act to authorize the development and maintenance of a multiagency campus project in the town of Jackson, Wyoming; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1453. An act to facilitate famine relief efforts and a comprehensive solution to the war in Sudan; to the Committee on International Relations.

S. 1488. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for recommendations of the Secretary of Health and Human Services regarding the placement of automatic external defibrillators in Federal buildings in order to improve survival rates of individuals who experience cardiac arrest in such buildings, and to establish protections from civil liability arising from the emergency use of the devices; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1508. An act to provide technical and legal assistance to tribal justice systems and members of Indian tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources; in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 1515. An act to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 1516. An act to amend title III of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11331 et seq.) to reauthorize the Federal Emergency Management Food and Shelter Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Finance.

S. 1569. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1599. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part

of certain administrative sites and other land in the Black Hills National Forest and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire replacement sites and to acquire or construct administrative improvements in connection with the Black Hills National Forest; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1707. An act to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to provide that certain designated Federal entities shall be establishments under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform.

S. 1733. An act to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to provide for a national standard of interoperability and portability applicable to electronic food stamp benefit transactions; to the Committee on Agriculture.

S. 1813. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional support for and to expand clinical research programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1877. An act to amend the Federal Report Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995; to the Committee on Government Reform; in addition to the Committees on House Administration and Budget for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 1937. An act to amend the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act to provide for sales of electricity by the Bonneville Power Administration to joint operating entities; to the Committee on Resources; in addition to the Committee on Commerce for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 1971. An act to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Milton Friedman, in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to individual freedom and opportunity in American society through his exhaustive research and teaching of economics, and his extensive writings on economics and public policy; to the Committee on Budget; in addition to the Committee on the Budget for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 1996. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to clarify provisions relating to the content of petitions for compensation under the vaccine injury compensation program; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. Con. Res. 42. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued by the United States Postal Service honoring the members of the Armed Forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart; to the Committee on Government Reform.

S. Con. Res. 71. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that Miami, Florida, and not a competing foreign city, should serve as the permanent location for the Secretariat of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) beginning in 2005; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED SUBSEQUENT TO SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MORELLA).

On December 2, 1999:

H.R. 3419. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3443. An act to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide States with more funding and greater flexibility in carrying out programs designed to help children make the transition from foster care to self-sufficiency, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2466. An act making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

On December 6, 1999:

H.R. 1180. An act to amend the Social Security Act to expand the availability of health care coverage for working individuals with disabilities, to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program in the Social Security Administration to provide such individuals with meaningful opportunities to work, and for other purposes.

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ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 52 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, January 31, 2000, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

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EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5566. A letter from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Trade Options on the Enumerated Agricultural Commodities (RIN: 3038–AB43) received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5567. A letter from the Acting Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Revised Procedures for Listing New Contracts (RIN: 3038–AB42) received November 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5568. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Mexican Haas Avocado Import Program [Docket No. 99–020–2] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5569. A letter from the Administrator and Executive, Farm Service Agency, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—1999 Marketing Quota and Price Support for Flue-Cured Tobacco (RIN: 0560–AF49) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5570. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Generic E. coli Testing for Sheep, Goats, Equines, Ducks, Geese, and Guineas [Docket No. 97–004F] (RIN: 0583–AC32) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5571. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Rules of Practice [Docket No. 95–025F] (RIN: 0583–AC34) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5572. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Tobacco Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tobacco Inspection; Subpart B-Regulations [Docket No. TB–99–10] (RIN: 0581–AB65) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5573. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Oranges and Grapefruit Grown in Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas; Changes to Pack Requirements [Docket No. FV99–906–3 FIR] received December 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5574. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Avocados Grown in South Florida; Relaxation of Container and Pack Requirements [Docket No. FV00–915–1 IFR] received December 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5575. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines, and Tangelos Grown in Florida; Modification of Procedures for Limiting the Volume of Small Red Seedless Grapefruit [Docket No. FV99–905–4 FIR] received December 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5576. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Veterinary Services User Fees [Docket No. 98–004–1] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5577. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Veterinary Services User Fees; Biosecurity Level Three Laboratory Inspection Fee [Docket No. 98–052–2] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5578. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Brucellosis in Cattle; State and Area Classifications; Kansas [Docket No. 99–051–2] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5579. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Importation From Europe of Rhododendron Established in Growing Media [Docket No. 89–154–5] (RIN: 0579–AB00) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5580. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Fee Increase for Meat and Poultry Inspection Services [Docket No. 99–045F] received January 13, 2000, pursuant

to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5581. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Food Ingredients and Sources of Radiation Listed or Approved for Use in the Production of Meat and Poultry Products [Docket No. 88–026F] (RIN: 0583–AB02) received January 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5582. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Scale Requirements for Accurate Weights, Repairs, Adjustments, and Replacement After Inspection [Docket No. 99–016F] received January 12, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5583. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule— Exemption of Retail Operations from Inspection Requirements [Docket No. 99–055R] received January 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5584. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Change in Disease Status of Portugal Because of African Swine Fever [Docket No. 99–096–1] received January 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5585. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Export Certification; Heat Treatment of Solid Wood Packing Materials Exported to China [Docket No. 99–100–1] received January 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5586. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Vidalia Onions Grown in Georgia; Changing the Term of Office and Nomination Deadlines [Docket No. FV00–955 2 IFR] received January 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5587. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Vidalia Onions Grown in Georgia; Fiscal Period Change [Docket No. FV99–955–1 FIR] received January 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5588. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—2, 4-dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid; Re-establishment of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP–300952; FRL–6396–3] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5589. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Clomazone; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP–300939; FRL–6388–4] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5590. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—N-Acyl Sarcosines and Sodium N-acyl sarcosinates; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [FRL–6386–6] received December 1, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5591. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Tetraconazole [(+/—)-2-(2,4-dicholorop eny)-3-(1H–1, 2, 4-triazol-1-yl) propyl 1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethyl ether]; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP–300931; FRL–6384–1] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received December 1, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5592. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Tebufenozide; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP–300947; FRL–6390–9] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5593. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Evironmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Myclobutanil; Extension of Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions [OPP–300957; FRL–6398–2] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5594. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the designation of the Department of Defense request as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; (H. Doc. No. 106–165); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5595. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the request to transfer funds from the Information Technology Systems and Related Expenses; (H. Doc. No. 106–170); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5596. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the Department of Defense Budget Request; (H. Doc. No. 106–171); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5597. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting designating the emergency budget requests as emergency requirements pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; (H. Doc. No. 106–172); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5598. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting Department of Defense Budget Request; (H. Doc. No. 106–173); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

5599. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on the transfer of property to the Republic of Panama under the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977 and related agreements, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3784(b); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5600. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule—TRICARE; Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Nonavailability Statement Requirement for Maternity Care—received January 9, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

5601. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the approved retirement and advancement to the grade of lieutenant general of Lieutenant General Jack P. Nix Jr.; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5602. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the approved retirement and advancement to the grade of general on the retired list of General John H. Tilelli, Jr.; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5603. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the approved retirement and advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list of Lieutenant General Frank B. Campbell, United States Air Force; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5604. A letter from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, Administrator of National Banks, transmitting the Comptroller's final rule—''Loans in Areas Having Special Flood Hazards''—received December 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5605. A letter from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety and Soundness Standards [Docket No. 99–50] (RIN: 1550–AB27) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5606. A letter from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Community Development Corporations, Community Development Projects, and Other Public Welfare Investments [Docket No. 99–20] (RIN: 1557–AB69) received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5607. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Technical Amendments [No. 99–79] received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5608. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program; Clarification of the Nature of Required CDBG Expenditure Documentation [Docket No. FR–4449–F–02] (RIN: 2506–AC00) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5609. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Up-Front Grants and Loans in the Disposition of Multifamily Projects [Docket No. FR–4310–F–02] (RIN: 2502–AH12) received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5610. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program-Contract Rent Annual Adjustment Factors, Fiscal Year 2000—received January 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5611. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Fair Market Rents for the Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program-Fiscal Year 2000 [Docket No. FR–4496–N–03] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5612. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing, Department of

Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Civil Penalties for Fair Housing Act Violations [Docket No. FR–4302–F–03] (RIN: 2529–AA83) received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5613. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Public Housing Agency Plans; Option To Extend First Submission Due Date for Certain Public Housing Agencies [Docket No. FR–4420–N–05] (RIN: 2577–AB89) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5614. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Housing Choice Voucher Program; Amendment [Docket No. FR–4428–F–05] (RIN: 2577–AB91) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5615. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a statement with respect to the following transaction involving U.S. exports to Venezuela, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5616. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a statement regarding the following transaction involving a U.S. export to Lithuania; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5617. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting the semiannual report on tied aid credits, pursuant to Public Law 99—472, section 19 (100 Stat. 1207); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5618. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting the transaction involving U.S. exports to the Republic of Panama; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5619. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting the annual report to Congress on the operations of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for Fiscal Year 1999, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 635g(a); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5620. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Safety and Soundness Standards (RIN: 3064–AC18) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5621. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Insured State Nonmember Banks Which Are Municipal Securities Dealers (RIN: 3064–AC19) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5622. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Credit Union Service Organizations—received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5623. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Management Official Interlooks—received January 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

5624. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Local Agency Expenditure Reports (RIN: 0584–AC74) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

5625. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule—Insurance Company Accounts (RIN: 1210–AA58) received January 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

5626. A letter from the Director, Coporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Payment of Premiums (RIN: 1212–AA82) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

5627. A letter from the Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Disclosure to Participants; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-employer Plans—received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

5628. A letter from the Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Valuation of Benefits and Assets; Expected Retirement Age—received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

5629. A letter from the Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits—received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

5630. A letter from the Department of Agriculture, transmitting the annual Horse Protection Enforcement Report for fiscal year 1998, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1830; to the Committee on Commerce.

5631. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Implementation of Fiscal Year 2000 Legislative Plans—received December 1, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5632. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Implementation of Fiscal Year 2000 Legislative Provisions—received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5633. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Sanitizers [Docket No. 95F–0150] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5634. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Animal Drug Availability Act; Medicated Feed Mill Licenses [Docket No. 97N–0276] (RIN: 0910–AB18) received November 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5635. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Sanitizers [Docket No. 98F–0825] received November 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5636. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Listing of Color Additives for Coloring Bone Cement; FD&C Blue No. 2–Aluminum Lake on Alumina; Confirmation of Effective Date [Docket No. 92C–0348] received November 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5637. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Sanitizers [Docket No. 99F–1170] received November 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5638. A letter from the NIH Regulation Officer, Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—National Institutes of Health Construction Grants (RIN: 0925–AA04) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5639. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Sanitizers [Docket No. 98F–0492] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5640. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Progestational Drug Products for Human Use; Requirements for Labeling Directed to the Patient [Docket No. 99N–0188] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5641. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Biological Products Regulated Under Section 351 of the Public Health Service Act; Implementation of Biologics License; Elimination of Establishment License and Product License [Docket No. 98N–0144] (RIN: 0910–AB29) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5642. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Sunscreen Drug Products For Over-The-Counter Human Use; Final Monograph [Docket No. 78N–0038] (RIN: 0910–AA01) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5643. A letter from the Attorney, NHTSA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Consumer Information Regulations; Utility Vehicle Label [Docket No. NHTSA–98–3381, Notice 3] (RIN:

2127–AH68) received August 27, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5644. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Approval Under Section 112(1); State of Iowa [084–1084; FRL–6483–4] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5645. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island; VOC Regulations and RACT Determinations [RI–028–01–6974a; A–1–FRL–6483–8] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5646. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, South Coast Air Quality Management District and Ventura County Air Pollution Control District [CA 217–0192; FRL–6480–4] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5647. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Connecticut; Removal of Oxygenated Gasoline Requirement for the Connecticut Portion of the New York—N. New Jersey—Long Island Area (the ''Southwest Connecticut Area'') [CT060–7219a; A–1–FRL–6479–4] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5648. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Revisions to the Underground Injection Control Regulations for Class V Injection Wells [FRL–6482–2] (RIN: 2040–AB83) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5649. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of New Mexico; Approval of Revised Maintenance Plan for Albuquerque/Bernalillo County; Albuquerque/Bernalillo County, New Mexico; Carbon Monoxide [NM39–1–7416a; FRL–6504–9] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5650. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval of Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerator State Plan For Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Indiana [IN 109–1a; FRL–6507–5] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5651. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Ethylene Oxide Commercial Sterilization and Fumigation Operations [AD–FRL–6500–2] (RIN: 2060–A137) received December 1, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5652. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Halogenated Solvent Cleaning [AD-FRL–6500–1] received December 1, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5653. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Superfund Redevelopment Pilot Program [FRL- 6506–5] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5654. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Control of Air Pollution from Volatile Organic Compounds, Miscellaneous Industrial Sources, Cut back Asphalt [FRL–6504–4] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5655. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Utah; Road Saltying and Sanding, Control of Installations, Revisions to Saltying and Sanding Requirements and Deletion of Non-Ferrous Smelter Orders, Incorporation by Reference, and Substantive Changes [FRL–6482–9] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5656. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Montana; Emergency Episode Plan, Columbia Falls; Butte and Missoula Particulate Matter State Implementation Plans, Missoula Carbon Monoxide State Implementation Plan [FRL–6482–6] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5657. A letter from the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Approval of Definitions for the New Source Review Regulations [FRL–6500–7] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5658. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Iowa; Correction [Region VII Tracking No. 088–1088; FRL–6501–4] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5659. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Policy on Cutoff Dates for Submitting Data to SDWIS/FED—received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5660. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—The Data Sharing Committee's Review of the Surface Water Treatment Rule Data Needs and Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS) Reporting Requirements—received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5661. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Revised Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS) Inventory Reporting Requirements—Technical Guidance—received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5662. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program Policy Announcement: Eligibility of Reimbursement of Incurred Costs for Approved Projects [FRL–6217–9] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5663. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Section 112(l) Approval of the State of Florida's Rule Adjustment to the National Perchloroethylene Air Emission Standards for Dry Cleaning Facilities [FRL–6514–5] received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5664. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Massachusetts; Interim Final Determination that Massachusetts has Corrected the Deficiencies of its I/M SIP Revision [MA073–7207A; A–1–FRL–6481–2] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5665. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, Project XL Site-specific Rulemaking for Imation Corp. Camarillo Plant [CA 236–0197; FRL–6481–8] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5666. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District, and Yolo-Solano County Air Quality Management District [CA 126–0190a FRL–6477–7] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5667. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Primary and Secondary Drinking Water Regulations: Analytical Methods for Chemical and Microbiological Contaminants and Revisions to Laboratory Certification Requirements [WH-FRL–6481–7] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5668. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—OMB Approval Numbers Under the Paperwork Reduction Act Relating to the Criteria for Classification of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities and Practices [FRL–6481–3] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5669. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Control of

Emissions of Air Pollution from New CI Marine Engines at or above 37 kW (RIN: 2060–AI17) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5670. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Findings of Significant Contribution and Rulemaking on Section 126 Petitions for Purposes of Reducing Interstate Ozone Transport (final stay extension) [FRL–6484–2] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5671. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Program, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Allegheny County Portion of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Operating Permits Program, and Federally Enforceable State Operating Permit Program [Siptrax No. PA138; FRL–6500–8] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5672. A letter from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Parts 2 and 90 of the Commission's Rules to Allocate the 5.850–5.925 GHz Band to the Mobile Service for Dedicated Short Range Communications of Intelligent Transportation Services [ET Docket No. 98–95 RM–9096] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5673. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987; Prescription Drug Amendments of 1992; Policies, Requirements, and Administrative Procedures [Docket Nos. 92N–0297 and 88N–0258] (RIN: 0910–AA08) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5674. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Functional Equivalence of Headlamp Concealment with European Regulations (RIN: 2127–AH18) received August 27, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5675. A letter from the Attorney, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Head Impact Protection [Docket No. NHTSA–98–3421] (RIN: 2127–AH60) received December 20, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5676. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the draft policy statement and notice of public meeting concerning NRC's prescription of decommissioning criteria for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) and the West Valley site; to the Committee on Commerce.

5677. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Voluntary Submission of Performance Indicator Data [NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 99–06] received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5678. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Adoption of Amendments to the Intermarket Trading System Plan to Expand the ITS/Computer Assisted Execution System to all Listed Securities (RIN: 3235–AH49) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5679. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Audit Committee Disclosure [Release No. 34–42266; File No. S7–22–99] (RIN: 3235–AH83) received January 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5680. A letter from the Secretary, Division of Investment Management, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Temporary Exemption for Certain Investment Advisers [Release Nos. IC–24177, IA–1846; File No. S7–22–98] (RIN: 3235–AH02) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

5681. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Taliban, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); (H. Doc. No. 106–169); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5682. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a continuation of the national emergency declared by Executive Order 12924 of August 19, 1994, to deal with the threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States caused by the lapse of the Export Administration Act of 1979, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); (H. Doc. No. 106–174); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5683. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a 6-month report on the national emergency with respect to Libya that was declared in Executive Order 12543 of January 7, 1986, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); (H. Doc. No. 106–175); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5684. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the emergency declared with Libya is to continue in effect beyond January 7, 2000, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); (H. Doc. No. 106–176); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5685. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report on developments concerning the national emergency with respect to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); (H. Doc. No. 106–177); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5686. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Burma declared by Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); (H. Doc. No. 106–178); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5687. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting Progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question covering the period October 1 to November 30, 1999, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2373(c); (H. Doc. No. 106–180); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5688. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. 16–99 which constitutes a Request for Final Approval for Amendment Number 1 to the Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. and France concerning the Intercooled Recuperated (ICR) Gas Turbine Engine, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

5689. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

5690. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a Statement of Justification; (H. Doc. No. 106–166); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5691. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the supplemental report on continued contributions in support of peacekeeping efforts in Kosovo; (H. Doc. No. 106–179); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5692. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the quarterly reports in accordance with Sections 36(a) and 26(b) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on International Relations.

5693. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Expansion of License Exception CIV Eligibility for ''Microprocessors'' Controlled by ECCN 3A001 and Graphics Accelerators Controlled by ECCN 4A003 [Docket No. 990701179–9301–02] (RIN: 0694–AB90) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

5694. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report entitled, ''Report of U.S. Citizen Expropriation Claims and Certain Other Commercial and Investment Disputes''; to the Committee on International Relations.

5695. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a ''Report on Withdrawal of Russian Armed Forces and Military Equipment''; to the Committee on International Relations.

5696. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Agency's annual report entitled ''Report to Congress on Arms Control, Nonproliferation and Disarmament Studies Completed in 1998,'' pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2579; to the Committee on International Relations.

5697. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Executive Summary and Compliance Annexes to the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency's 1998 Annual Report; to the Committee on International Relations.

5698. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the report on the status of efforts to obtain Iraq's compliance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council; (H. Doc. No. 106–163); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

5699. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Semiannual Report covering the period ending September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5700. A letter from the Inspector General-Education, Department of Education, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General of the Department of Education for the six-month period ending September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5701. A letter from the Chairman, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period ended September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app.

(Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5702. A letter from the Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Legal Services Corporation, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5703. A letter from the Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5704. A letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5705. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5706. A letter from the Inspector General-Health and Human Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Inspector General's semiannual report for the period April 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5707. A letter from the Administrator, Agency For International Development, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Inspector General for the period ending September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5708. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's Semiannual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5709. A letter from the Executive Director, Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind Or Severely Disabled, transmitting the Committee's final rule—Procurement List Additions and Deletions—received December 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5710. A letter from the Executive Director, Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind Or Severely Disabled, transmitting the Committee's final rule—Procurement List Additions—received November 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5711. A letter from the Chairman, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the Semiannaul Report of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5712. A letter from the General Counsel, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Rules Implementing the Government in Sunshine Act (RIN: 3045–AA21) received December 3, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5713. A letter from the Chairman, Corporation For Public Broadcasting, transmitting The Corporation's Semiannual Report for the period ending September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5714. A letter from the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the determination to allow the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to place a contract with Resources for the Future as earmarked in the Conference Committee Report (H.R. 106–379) on EPA's Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriations Act; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5715. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the report in compliance with the Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5716. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's annual commercial activities inventory list; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5717. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5718. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Privacy Act Regulations—received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5719. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Agency Records Centers (RIN: 3095–AA81) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5720. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Storage of Federal Records (RIN: 3095–AA86) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5721. A letter from the Inspector General, National Endowment for the Arts, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5722. A letter from the Chairman, National Science Board, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period of April 1, 1999, through September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5723. A letter from the Writer and Editor, National Science Foundation, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5724. A letter from the Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting the FY 1999 report pursuant to the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5725. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a report entitled ''Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2000,'' pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3504(e)(2); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5726. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting an accounting statement covering Federal stewardship property, investments, and responsibilities that was recently recommended by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) and approved in its entirety by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Comptroller General, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3511; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5727. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Miscellaneous Changes in Compensation Regulations (RIN: 3206–AH11) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5728. A letter from the Acting Director, Peace Corps, transmitting The semi-annual report of the Inspector General for the period of April 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5729. A letter from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Fiscal Year 1999 Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act Report Status of Material Weaknesses; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5730. A letter from the Office of the Under Secretary, SMITHsonian Institution, transmitting the Inventory of Commercial Activities; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5731. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board's (MSPB) strategic plan for FY 2000–2005; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5732. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Postlease Operations Safety (RIN: 1010–AC32) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5733. A letter from the Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Pacific Coast Population of the Western Snowy Plover (RIN: 1018–AD10) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5734. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Louisiana Regulatory Program [SPATS No. LA–018–FOR] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5735. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species od Wild Fauna and Flora (CITIES); Carrying Out the Inclusion of all Species of the Order Acipenseriformes (Sturgeon and Paddlefish) in the Appendices to CITES (RIN: 1018–AF66) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5736. A letter from the Director, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Virginia Regulatory Program [VA–113–FOR] received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5737. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Oklahoma Regulatory Program [SPATS No. OK–026–FOR] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5738. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Operations On Federal Lands; State-Federal Cooperative Agreements; Indiana [SPATS No. IN–142–FOR] received December 13, 1999, pursuant to

5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5739. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Operations; Permanent Regulatory Program; Compliance with Court Order (RIN: 1029–AB69) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5740. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Interpretative Rule Related to Subsidence Due to Underground Coal Mining (RIN: 1029–AB82) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5741. A letter from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule To List Two Cave Animals from Kauai, Hawaii, as Endangered (RIN: 1018–AE39) received January 13, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5742. A letter from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to List the Sierra Nevada District Population Segment of the California Bighorn Sheep as Endangered (RIN: 1018–AF59) received January 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5743. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Illinois Regulatory Program [SPATS No. IL–097–FOR, PART I] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5744. A letter from the Deputy Asst. Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies and Monkfish Fisheries; Monkfish Fishery Management Plan [Docket No. 981223319–9167–02; I.D. 112598B] (RIN: 0648–AJ44) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5745. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Commercial and Recreational Inseason Adjustments and Reopening from Cape Flattery to Leadbetter Point, WA [Docket No. 99040113–01; I.D. 092199D] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5746. A letter from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Maximum Retainable Bycatch Percentages, Gulf of Alaska [Docket No. 990720198–9307–02; I.D. 070799B] (RIN: 0648–AM36) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5747. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Scup Fishery; Commercial Quota Harvested for Winter II Period [Docket No. 981014259–8312–02; I.D. 122299B] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5748. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands [Docket No. 990304063–9063–01; I.D. 111299B] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5749. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Commercial Haddock Harvest [Docket No. 990318076–9109–02; I.D. 110499A] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5750. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Commercial Reopening from Cape Flattery to Leadbetter Point, WA [Docket No. 99040113–01; I.D. 093099B] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5751. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Trip Limit Adjustments; Correction [Docket No. 981231333–8333–01; I.D. 092999C] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5752. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for the National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary [Docket No. 990914255–9255–01] (RIN: 0648–AN28) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5753. A letter from the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Sea Turtle Conservation; Shrimp Trawling Requirements [Docket No. 980331080–9269–02; I.D. 091799A] (RIN: 0648–AK66) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5754. A letter from the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Sea Turtle Conservation; Shrimp Trawling Requirements [Docket No. 950427117–9271–10] (RIN: 0648–AN30) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5755. A letter from the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Sea Turtle Conservation; Summer Flounder Trawling Requirements [Docket No. 991007270–9270–01; I.D. 090399E] (RIN: 0648–AM89) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5756. A letter from the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Designated Critical Habitat: Revision of Critical Habitat for Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon [Docket No. 990525143–9277–02; I.D. 120197A] (RIN: 0648–AM41) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5757. A letter from the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Definition of ''Harm'' [Docket No. 980414094–9287–02; I.D. No. 091797A] (RIN: 0648–AK55) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5758. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Clarification of Patent and Trademark Copy Fees [Docket No. 99–1020282–9282–01] (RIN: 0651–AB08) received November 23, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5759. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision of Patent and Trademark Fees for Fiscal Year 2000 [Docket No. 991105297–9297–01] (RIN: 0651–AB01) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5760. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Civil Penalties for Fair Housing Act Violations [Docket No. FR–4302–F–03] (RIN: 2529–AA83) received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5761. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the U.S. Department of Justice's prision impact assessment (PIA) for 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5762. A letter from the Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule— Extension of 25–Mile Limit at Select Arizona Ports-of-Entry [INS No. 2026–99] (RIN: 1115–AF60) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5763. A letter from the Director, Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, transmitting the Department's final rule—Adjustments of Small Volume Application Fees of the Immigration Examinations Fee Account [INS No. 1933–98; AG Order No. 2282–99] (RIN: 1115–AF10) received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5764. A letter from the Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting notification that funding under title V of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended, will exceed $5 million for the response to the emergency declared on November 17, 1999 as a result of Hurricane Lenny which severely impacted the Territory of the United States Virgin Islands beginning November 17, 1999 and continuing, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5193; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5765. A letter from the Inland Waterway Users Board, Department of the Army, transmitting the Board's thirteenth annual report of its activities; recommendations regarding

construction, rehabilitation priorities and spending levels on the commercial navigational features and components of inland waterways and harbors, pursuant to Public Law 99—662, section 302(b) (100 Stat. 4111); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5766. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Special Local Regulations: Puerto Rico International Cup, Fajardo, Puerto Rico [CGD07–99–057] (RIN: 2115–AE46) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5767. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; New Year's Celebration Fireworks, Patapsco River, Baltimore, MD [CGD 05–99–089] (RIN: 2115–AE46) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5768. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Approaches to Annapolis Harbor, Spa Creek, and Severn River, Annapolis, Maryland [CGD 05–99–096] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5769. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Raccoon Creek, New Jersey [CGD05–99–095] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5770. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations: Acushnet River, Annisquam River, Fore River, and Taunton River, MA [CGD01–99–187] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5771. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations: China Basin, Mission Creek, CA [CGD11–99–017] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5772. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Keweenaw Waterway, MI [CGD09–99–082] (RIN: 2115–AE47) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5773. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 29884; Amdt. No. 419] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5774. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of VOR Federal Airways; AK [Airspace Docket No. 98–AAL–14] (RIN: 2120–AA66) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5775. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 29843; Amdt. No. 418] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5776. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Part 91 Amendment [Docket No. 29833; Amendment No. 91–258] (RIN: 2120–AA66) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5777. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revocation of Class E and Class D Airspace, EL Toro MCAS, CA [Airspace Docket No. 99–AWP–19] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5778. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 29852; Amdt. No. 1963] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5779. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 29851; Amdt. No. 1962] received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5780. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Lockheed Model L–1011–385 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–122–AD; Amendment 39–11436; AD 99–24–12] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 3, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5781. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (EMBRAER) Model EMB–135 and EMB–145 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–340–AD; Amendment 39–11437; AD 99–24–13] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 3, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5782. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Raytheon Model BAe.125 Series 1000A and 1000B, and Model Hawker 1000 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–176–AD; Amendment 39–11444; AD 99–25–01] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5783. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model AS–350B, B1, B2, B3, BA, and D and AS–355E, F, F1, F2, and N Helicopters [Docket No. 99–SW–41–AD; Amendment 39–11443; AD 99–24–18] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5784. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737–100, –200, –300, –400, and –500 Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–332–AD; Amendment 39–11445; AD 99–25–02] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5785. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Saab Model SAAB 2000 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–197–AD; Amendment 39–11442; AD 99–24–17] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5786. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH Model EC135 P1 and T1 Helicopters [Docket No. 99–SW–59–AD; Amendment 39–11439; AD 99–22–01] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5787. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 757–200 and -300 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–89–AD; Amendment 39–11435; AD 99–24–11] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5788. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–46–AD; Amendment 39–11441; AD 99–24–16] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5789. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Precise Flight, Inc. Model SVS III Standby Vacuum Systems [Docket No. 98–CE–87–AD; Amendment 39–11434; AD 99–24–10] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5790. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company CF6 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 95–ANE–39; Amendment 39–11440; AD 99–24–15] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5791. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Update of Standards from the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) [USCG–1999–5151] (RIN: 2115–AF80) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5792. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Chesapeake Bay, Whitehall Bay, Annapolis, MD [CGD 05–99–094] (RIN: 2115–AA97) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5793. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Model DHC–7 and DHC–8 Series Airplanes [Docket

No. 99–NM–152–AD; Amendment 39–11307; AD 99–19–18] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5794. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision of Certification Requirements: Aircraft Dispatchers [Docket No. FAA–1998–4553; Amendment No. 65–40] (RIN: 2120–AG04) received December 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5795. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Removal of the Prohibition Against Certain Flights Within the Territory and Airspace of Sudan [Docket No. 29317; Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) No. 82] (RIN: 2120–AG67) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5796. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives: Mitsubishi Model YS–11 and YS–11A Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–140–AD; Amendment 39–11295; AD 99–19–06] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5797. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Jetstream Model BAe ATP Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–145–AD; Amendment 39–11300; AD 99–19–11] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5798. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Model F27 Mark 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, and 700 series airplanes and Model F27 Mark 050 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–153–AD; Amendment 39–11308; AD 99–19–19] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5799. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision of Class E Airspace; Point Lay, AK [Airspace Docket No. 99–AAL–12] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5800. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class E Airspace; Fort Wayne, IN [Airspace Docket No. 99–AGL–46] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5801. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Class E Airspace; Batesville, IN [Airspace Docket No. 99–AGL–44] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5802. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class E Airspace; Maple Lake, MN [Airspace Docket No. 99–AGL–45] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5803. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Class E Airspace; Koliganek, AK [Airspace Docket No. 99–AAL–15] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5804. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment to Class D and Establishment of Class E2 Airspace, Fort Rucker, AL [Airspace Docket No. 99–ASO–14] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5805. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment of Class E Airspace; Lewiston, ID; Establishment of Class E Airspace, Grangeville, ID [Airspace Docket No. 99–ANM–01] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5806. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Hartzell Propeller, Inc. Model HD-E6C–3() Propellers [Docket No. 99–NE–18–AD; Amendment 39–11448; AD 99–25–05] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5807. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Models PC–12 and PC–12/45 Airplanes [Docket No. 99–CE–54–AD; Amendment 39–11433; AD 99–24–09] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 2, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5808. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule— Revised Docket Filing Procedures for Federal Railroad Administration Rulemaking and Adjudicatory Dockets; [Docket No. FRA–99–6625, Notice No. 1] (RIN: 2130–AB37) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5809. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Motor Carrier Safety Regulations; Revision of Chapter Heading; Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration [FMCSA Docket No. FMCSA–2000–6629] (RIN: 2126–AA48) received December 20, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5810. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Inspection and Maintenance Standards for Steam Locomotives [Docket No. RSSL–98–1, Notice No. 3] received October 28, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5811. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Right-of-Way Program Administration [FHWA Docket No. FHWA–98–4315] (RIN: 2125–AE44) received December 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5812. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company CF6–80E1A2 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 99–NE–52–AD; Amendment 39–11438; AD 99–24–14] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5813. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737–100, –200, –300, –400, and –500 Series Airplanes; and Model 727–100 and –200 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–18–AD; Amendment 39–11430; AD 99–24–06] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5814. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737–100, –200, –300, –400, and –500 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–260–AD; Amendment 39–11432; AD 99–24–08] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5815. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace Model HS 748 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–147–AD; Amendment 39–11302; AD 99–19–13] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5816. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace (Jetstream) Model 4101 Airplanes [Docket No. 98–NM–296–AD; Amendment 39–11449; AD 99–25–06] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5817. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; BFGoodrich Main Brake Assemblies as Installed on Airbus Model A319 and A320 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99–NM–341–AD; Amendment 39–11450; AD 99–25–07] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5818. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Lockheed Model 382 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98–NM–371–AD; Amendment 39–11447; AD 99–25–04] (RIN: 2120–AA64) received December 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5819. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class E Airspace; Caledonia, MN [Airspace Docket No. 99–AGL–49] received December 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5820. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendment to Class E Airspace; Winfield/Arkansas City, KS [Airspace Docket No. 99–ACE–44] received December 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5821. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of Class E Airspace; Pine River, MN [Airspace Docket No. 99–AGL–47] received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5822. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Modification of Class E Airspace; Marquette, MI; revocation of Class E Airspace; Sawyer, MI, and K.I. Sawyer, MI [Airspace Docket No. 99–AGL–42] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5823. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Funding the Development and Implementation of Watershed Restoration Action Strategies under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5824. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—NEP FY 1997 Budget and Selected Guidance Topics—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5825. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Availability of Action Plan Demonstration Projects (APDP) Funds for Tier IV and NEPs—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5826. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—NEP FY 1998 Budget and Selected Guidance Topics—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5827. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Estuary Program Travel Funds Special Conditions—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5828. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Estuary Program FY 1999 Budget and Funding Guidelines—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5829. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Bienial Review of Post-CCMP NEPs-Final Guidance—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5830. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Biennial Review of Post-CCMP NEPs-FY 1999 Guidelines—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5831. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Cover Memorandum and Wetland Program Development Grants-FY2000 Grant Guidance—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5832. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidance for Fiscal Year 1997 and Future Years—received Novemeber 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5833. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Process and Criteria for Funding State and Territorial Nonpoint Source Management Programs FY 1999—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5834. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Effluent Limitations Guidelines, Pretreatment Standards, and New Source Performance Standards for the Landfills Point Source Category [FRL–6503–5] (RIN: 2040–AC23) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5835. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Commercial Hazardous Waste Combustor Subcategory of the Waste Combustors Point Source Category [FRL–6503–6] (RIN: 2040–AC23) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5836. A letter from the Deputy Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Announcement of Availability of Funds for a Competition—Advanced Technology Program (ATP) [Docket No. 991109300–9300–01] (RIN: 0693–ZA35) received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

5837. A letter from the Deputy Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Notice of Availability of Funds for Six Grants; Physics, MSEL, and MEL, SURF Programs; MSEL Grants Program; and Fire Research Grants Program [Docket No. 990907248–9248–01] (RIN: 0693–ZA32) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

5838. A letter from the Deputy Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Partnership for Advancing Technologies in Housing Cooperative Research Program (PATH-CoRP)-Notice of Availability of Funds [Docket No. 991019280–9280–01] (RIN: 0693–ZA34) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

5839. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting a report entitled, ''The Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation Program: Annual Report to Congress FY 1998''; to the Committee on Science.

5840. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Satellite and Information Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Office of Research and Applications Ocean Remote Sensing Program Notice of Financial Assistance [Docket No. 991028291–9291–01] (RIN: 0648–ZA75) received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

5841. A letter from the the Executive Secretary, the Disabled American Veterans, transmitting the 1999 National Convention proceedings of the Disabled American Veterans, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 90i and 44 U.S.C. 1332; (H. Doc. No. 106—167); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed.

5842. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—Per Diem for Nursing Home Care of Veterans in State Homes (RIN: 2900–AE87) received January 3, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

5843. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—VA Acquisition Regulation: Simplified Acquisition Procedures (RIN: 2900–AJ16) received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

5844. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—Rules of Practice: Title Change (RIN: 2900–AJ57) received January 7, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

5845. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting an updated report concerning the emigration laws and policies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2432(b); (H. Doc. No. 106—164); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

5846. A letter from the Acting Chief, Regulations Branch, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Import Restrictions Imposed On Certain Khmer Stone Archaeological Material of the Kingdom of Cambodia [T.D. 99–88] (RIN: 1515–AC52) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5847. A letter from the Acting Chief, Regulations Branch, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Export Certificates For Lamb Meat Subject To Tariff-Rate Quota [T.D. 99–87] (RIN: 1515–AC54) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5848. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Taxation of DISC Income to Shareholders—received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5849. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Treatment of Changes in Elective Entity Classification [TD 8844] (RIN: 1545–AV16) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5850. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Determination of Interest Rate [Rev. Rul. 99–53] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5851. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Section 705 Special Basis Rules [Notice 99–57] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5852. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting

the Service's final rule—Annual section 415(d) cost of living adjustments [Notice 99–55] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5853. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Disposition by a corporation of its own capital stock [Rev. Rul. 99–57] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5854. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Tax Avoidance Using Distributions of Encumbered Property [Notice 99–59] received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5855. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Special Rules for Certain Transactions Where Stated Principal Amount Does Not Exceed $2,800,000 [Rev. Rul. 99–50] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5856. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Treatment of Loans with Below-Market Interest Rates [Rev. Rul. 99–49] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5857. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Last-in; First-out Inventories [Rev. Rul. 99–55] received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5858. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Adequate Disclosure of Gifts [TD 8845] (RIN: 1545–AW20) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5859. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Adjustments Following Sales of Partnership Interests [TD 8847] (RIN: 1545–AS39) received December 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5860. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Automatic Consent to Change a Method of Accounting [Rev. Proc. 99–49] received December 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5861. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit, or abatement; determination of correct tax liability [Rev. Proc. 2000–9] received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5862. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Combined Information Reporting [Rev. Proc. 99–50] received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5863. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Low Income Housing Credit [Rev. Rul. 99–54] received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5864. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Determination of Issue Price in the Case of Certain Debt Instruments Issued for Property [Rev. Rul. 2000–1] received December 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5865. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Effective Date of Proposed Regulations under 1.368–2(d)(4) [Notice 2000–1] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5866. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Information reporting with respect to certain foreign corporations (RIN: 1545–AV69) [TD 8850] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5867. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Returns of Information of Brokers and Barter Exchanges [Notice 2000–6] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5868. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Weighted Average Interest Rate Update [Notice 99–54] received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5869. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Duke Energy Natural Gas Corporation v. Commissioner—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5870. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Conway v. Commissioner—received November 29, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5871. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Duplicate Benefits [Rev. Rul. 99–51] received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5872. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Information Reporting on Amounts Paid Under the General Allotment Act [Notice 99–60] received December 13, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5873. A letter from the Acting Regulations Officer, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Extension of Expiration Date for Several Body System Listings [Regulations No. 4] (RIN: 0960–AF15) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5874. A letter from the the Director, the Congressional Budget Office, transmitting CBO's final sequestration report for Fiscal Year 2000, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. section 904(b); (H. Doc. No. 106—168); to the Committee on the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

5875. A letter from the Lieutenant General, USA Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Authorizing the transfer of up $100M in defense articles and services to the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina—received December 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations.

5876. A letter from the Deputy Executive Secretary to the Department, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Programs Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) [HCFA–1903–IFC] (RIN: 0938–AJ63) received December 7, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. S. 430. An act to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, to provide for a land exchange between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Kake Tribal Corporation, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106–489). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

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PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. DAVIS of Virginia (for himself and Mr. MORAN of Virginia):

H.R. 3518. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to provide that the Act will not apply to employment performed with an electronic device in a workplace located in the employee's residence; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LEACH:

H.R. 3519. A bill to provide for negotiations for the creation of a trust fund to be administered by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the International Development Association to combat the AIDS epidemic; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. PITTS:

H.R. 3520. A bill to designate segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. MCINTOSH:

H.R. 3521. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for a report by the General Accounting Office to Congress on agency regulatory actions, and for other purposes; referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 3522. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to establish certain rules regarding motor vehicle inspection and maintenance in States that have contracted out vehicle testing and inspection services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 3523. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for expedited rescissions of budget authority and of limited tax benefits; referred to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 3524. A bill to phase out the incineration of solid waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation

and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OXLEY (for himself, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. COBURN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. BAKER, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COMBEST, Mr. RILEY, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. METCALF, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. DELAY, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. LINDER, Mr. HYDE, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. TALENT, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. GORDON, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. WOLF, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. HILL of Montana, and Mr. RAMSTAD):

H.R. 3525. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to follow normal rulemaking procedures in establishing additional requirements for noncommercial educational television broadcasters; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 3526. A bill to amend the Egg Products Inspection Act to improve the safety of shell eggs; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 3527. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to limit the amount of any increase in the payments required by health insurance issuers for health insurance coverage provided to individuals who are guaranteed an offer of enrollment under individual health insurance coverage relative to other individuals who purchase health insurance coverage; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 3528. A bill to provide health benefits for workers and their families; referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Commerce, Ways and Means, Government Reform, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 3529. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve access to health insurance and Medicare benefits for individuals ages 55 to 65 to be fully funded through premiums and antifraud provisions, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide financial assistance for those individuals who are too poor to afford the premiums, and for other purposes; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Commerce, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SHAW (for himself, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. HILL of Montana, Mr. WAMP, Mr. KUYKENDALL, Mr. COBURN, Mr. THORNBERRY, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. GOSS, Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. EWING, Mr. GIBBONS, and Mr. GOODLATTE):

H.R. 3530. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to provide that the Act will not apply to employment performed in a workplace located in the employee's residence; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. RANGEL (for himself, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. LEE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. MEEKS of New York, and Mr. MOAKLEY):

H. Con. Res. 240. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Elian Gonzalez should be reunited with his father, Juan Gonzalez of Cuba; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

295. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, relative to House Resolution memorializing the Congress and the President of the United States to direct the health care financing administration to adjust medicare managed care reimbursement rates in Massachusetts in order to provide equal access to medicare services; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce.

□

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MCCOLLUM:

H.R. 3531. A bill for the relief of Elian Gonzalez-Brotons; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

H.R. 3532. A bill for the relief of Elian Gonzalez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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ADDITIONAL SPONSORS TO PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 488: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 670: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.

H.R. 730: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 742: Mr. HALL of Texas.

H.R. 914: Mr. MASCARA, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H.R. 960: Mr. OWENS, Mr. LARSON, and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts.

H.R. 1422: Mr. WU.

H.R. 1612: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. RIVERS.

H.R. 1816: Mr. OBERSTAR and Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 1871: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Mr. GONZALEZ.

H.R. 1895: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 1967: Mr. SANDERS and Ms. BROWN of Florida.

H.R. 2222: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 2457: Mrs. MORELLA.

H.R. 2544: Mr. HUTCHINSON.

H.R. 2662: Mr. GILMAN.

H.R. 2776: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 2966: Mr. BACA, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. DUNCAN, Ms. DUNN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. FORBES, Mr. FORD, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. HAYWORTH, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. KIND, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. GARY MILLER of California, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. QUINN, Mr. REYES, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. SISISKY, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. TALENT, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WAMP, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. WEYGAND, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H.R. 3087: Mr. REYES.

H.R. 3115: Mr. SANDERS.

H.R. 3142: Mr. CLEMENT and Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 3144: Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. SHOWS.

H.R. 3256: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.

H.R. 3439: Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. GOODE, Mr. STUMP, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. SALMON, Mr. PICKETT, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. BASS, Mr. TURNER, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. SANDLIN, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. PETRI, Mr. GEKAS, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. TALENT, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. COMBEST, Mrs. WILSON, Mr. CANADY of Florida, Mr. NEY, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. EVERETT.

H.R. 3494: Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. COSTELLO, and Ms. LEE.

H.J. Res. 48: Mr. HORN and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.J. Res. 53: Mr. NETHERCUTT.

H. Res. 377: Mr. MCINTOSH.

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PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

78. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Mr. Gregory D. Watson of Austin, TX, relative to urging the Congress of the United States to vote and approve legislation to make employment discrimination against an applicant based upon the applicant's actual, or perceived, sexual orientation unlawful; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, House Administration, Government Reform, and the Judiciary.

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PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ACKERMAN (for himself, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. FORBES, and Mr. LAZIO):

H.R. 3533. A bill to provide the Secretary of Energy with authority to draw down the Strategic Petroleum Reserve when oil and gas prices in the United States rise sharply because of anticompetitive activity, and to require the President, through the Secretary of Energy, to consult with Congress regarding the sale of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

H.R. 3534. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to treat certain aircraft as amateur-built aircraft for the purposes of issuing experimental certificates for the operation of such aircraft; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr.

KUYKENDALL, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mrs. MORELLA):

H.R. 3535. A bill to amend the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to eliminate the wasteful and unsportsmanlike practice of shark finning; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey:

H.R. 3536. A bill to provide for a study regarding the potential health effects of ingesting and inhaling MTBE, to provide for research regarding methods for the removal of MTBE from water supplies, and to require public water systems to monitor for the presence of MTBE in public water systems; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey:

H.R. 3537. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for State and local real property taxes paid by certain taxpayers aged 65 or older who do not itemize their deductions and to provide for the establishment of senior citizen real property tax accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GUTIERREZ (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. MEEKS of New York):

H.R. 3538. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage the use of public transportation systems by allowing individuals a credit against income tax for expenses paid to commute to and from work or school using public transportation, and to reduce corporate welfare; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HAYWORTH (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

H.R. 3539. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to provide that the Act will not apply to employment performed in a workplace located in the employee's residence; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

H.R. 3540. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit the issuance of a certificate for subminimum wages for individuals with impaired vision or blindness; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

H.R. 3541. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on 1,5-dichloroanthraquinone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. JONES of Ohio (for herself, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DIXON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. LEE, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. CARSON, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BISHOP, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. WYNN, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. BOYD):

H.R. 3542. A bill to provide greater access to high quality distance education programs; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LARSON (for himself, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. SHAYS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. WEINER, Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. BOEHLERT, and Mr. HOLT):

H.R. 3543. A bill to provide the Secretary of Energy with authority to draw down the Strategic Petroleum Reserve when oil and gas prices in the United States rise sharply because of anticompetitive activity, and to require the President, through the Secretary of Energy, to consult with Congress regarding the sale of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. LEACH:

H.R. 3544. A bill to authorize a gold medal to be awarded on behalf of the Congress to Pope John Paul II in recognition of his many and enduring contributions to peace and religious understanding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 3545. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to achieve full funding by 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. FORBES, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. COOK, Mr. OLVER, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. BORSKI):

H.R. 3546. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a uniform dollar limitation for all types of transportation fringe benefits excludable from gross income; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MEEK of Florida:

H.R. 3547. A bill to amend title 18 of the United States Code to clarify the provisions respecting forfeiture for alien smuggling; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SAXTON (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. LOBIONDO):

H.R. 3548. A bill to redesignate the mud dump site located approximately 6 miles east of Sandy Hook, New Jersey, and known as the ''Historic Area Remediation Site'', as the ''Albert Gore, Jr., Mud Dump Site''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SAXTON (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. LOBIONDO):

H.R. 3549. A bill to amend the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 relating to the dumping of dredged material in the Historic Area Remediation Site, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SMITH of Michigan:

H.R. 3550. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction in determining adjusted gross income for travel expenses of State legislators away from home; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ARMEY:

H. Con. Res. 241. A concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President on the State of the Union; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GEJDENSON (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. CARSON, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. DANNER, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FROST, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. KING, Mr. LARSON, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. SAWYER, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. TIERNEY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. VENTO, Mr. WALSH, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WEINER, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE):

H. Con. Res. 242. A concurrent resolution to urge the Nobel Commission to award the year 2000 Nobel Prize for Peace to former United States Senator George J. Mitchell for his dedication to fostering peace in Northern Ireland; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mrs. JONES of Ohio (for herself, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. MEEKS of New York):

H. Con. Res. 243. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the importance of mental health awareness, mental disorders, and early detection of mental illnesses to facilitate entry into treatment; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. NEY, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. MICA, Mr. EWING, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. FROST, Mr. CANNON, and Mr. LATOURETTE):

H. Con. Res. 244. A concurrent resolution permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. ARMEY:

H. Res. 401. A resolution providing for a committee to notify the President of the assembly of the Congress; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ARMEY:

H. Res. 402. A resolution to inform the Senate that a quorum of the House has assembled; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ARMEY:

H. Res. 403. A resolution providing for the hour of meeting of the House; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GALLEGLY:

H. Res. 404. A resolution congratulating the people and Governments of Argentina, Chile, Guatemala, and Uruguay for completing their recent and successful democratic national elections; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. GALLEGLY (for himself, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. GILLMOR, and Mr. GEJDENSON):

H. Res. 405. A resolution recognizing the recent natural disaster in Venezuela, commending the people and Government of Venezuela for its disaster recovery efforts, and calling on the United States Government and the international community to consider providing additional disaster assistance; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself and Mr. MCCOLLUM):

H. Res. 406. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Pakistan should be designated as a state sponsor of terrorism; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. THOMAS:

H. Res. 407. A resolution permitting official photographs of the House of Representatives to be taken while the House is in actual session; to the Committee on House Administration.

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PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. MARTINEZ introduced A bill (H.R. 3551) for the relief of Gui Di Chen; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 40: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 49: Mrs. ROUKEMA.

H.R. 50: Mr. BILBRAY and Mr. NORWOOD.

H.R. 61: Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin.

H.R. 82: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. PETRI, Mr. WAMP, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 220: Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska.

H.R. 303: Mr. SISISKY, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. POMBO, Ms. DANNER, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 323: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 443: Mrs. BIGGERT, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 444: Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD.

H.R. 483: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 528: Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.

H.R. 664: Mr. MARKEY.

H.R. 725: Mr. FARR of California.

H.R. 745: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 762: Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. HORN.

H.R. 783: Mrs. KELLY, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. WISE, Mr. MINGE, and Mr. DEMINT.

H.R. 860: Mr. MASCARA, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. NADLER, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. FOLEY.

H.R. 896: Mr. DEMINT.

H.R. 920: Mr. TIERNEY.

H.R. 997: Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. DOLYE.

H.R. 1111: Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. WAMP, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. FOLEY.

H.R. 1115: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 1168: Mr. VITTER, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. WICKER, Mr. RILEY, Mr. WAMP, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. JENKINS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. RODRIGUEZ.

H.R. 1188: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H.R. 1190: Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 1367: Mr. GANSKE, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. KLECZKA, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1413: Mr. NETHERCUTT.

H.R. 1443: Ms. RIVERS.

H.R. 1485: Mr. LARSON.

H.R. 1486: Mr. SUNUNU, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin.

H.R. 1494: Mr. SHADEGG.

H.R. 1495: Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. KILPATRICK, and Mr. WISE.

H.R. 1515: Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. EVANS, Mr. LEVIN, and Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 1525: Mr. VISCLOSKY and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1584: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 1621: Mr. CONYERS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. MCNULTY, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. MINGE, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ANDREWS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, and Mr. CLEMENT.

H.R. 1622: Mr. NADLER, Ms. ESCOO, Mr. FROST, and Ms. KILPATRICK.

H.R. 1671: Mr. KUCINICH.

H.R. 1705: Mr. DELAHUNT.

H.R. 1706: Mr. SHADEGG.

H.R. 1708: Mr. BOEHLERT.

H.R. 1798: Mrs. MALONEY of New York and Mr. DIXON.

H.R. 1839: Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. LARSON, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mrs. KELLY, and Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 1899: Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. BACA, and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 1926: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. KUYKENDALL, and Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi.

H.R. 2059: Mr. WYNN, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 2121: Mr. DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. PASCRELL, AND Mr. MARTINEZ.

H.R. 2175: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 2200: Mr. FORBES and Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 2228: Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mrs. THURMAN.

H.R. 2229: Mr. KUCINICH.

H.R. 2265: Mr. JEFFERSON.

H.R. 2308: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 2382: Ms. RIVERS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. WAMP, Mr. NETHERCUT, and Ms. DANNER.

H.R. 2451: Mr. TURNER, and Mr. GOODE.

H.R. 2498: Mr. SABO, Mr. BENTSEN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. GIBBONS, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. EVANS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.

H.R. 2553: Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 2562: Mr. GILCHREST.

H.R. 2564: Mr. BRYANT, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. WAMP, and Mr. SAXTON.

H.R. 2569: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 2573: Mr. DIXON and Mr. GEJDENSON.

H.R. 2586: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 2623: Mr. GEPHARDT, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.

H.R. 2655: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. COMBEST, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, and Mr. BAKER.

H.R. 2691: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 2697: Mr. WISE, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. BAKER.

H.R. 2722: Mr. ROTHMAN and Mr. WATT of North Carolina.

H.R. 2741: Mr. FROST, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 2765: Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. GEPHARDT, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. CLAY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FORD, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2776: Mr. OLVER.

H.R. 2784: Ms. LEE.

H.R. 2807: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 2827: Mr. MCINTOSH.

H.R. 2868: Mrs. CAPPS.

H.R. 2870: Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FILNER, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. ACKERMAN.

H.R. 2892: Mr. RAHALL.

H.R. 2895: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. Mr. UDALL of Colorado.

H.R. 2901: Mr. BAKER and Mr. LARGENT.

H.R. 2965: Mr. WU.

H.R. 2966: Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Mr. BOYD, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. LAFALCE, and Mr. WALDEN of Oregon.

H.R. 3082: Mr. SHAYS and Mr. HAYWORTH.

H.R. 3105: Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 3107: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. HINCHEY, and Mr. DOYLE.

H.R. 3141: Mr. GUTIERREZ and Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 3185: Mr. GILCHREST.

H.R. 3193: Mr. SNYDER, Mr. FORD, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. MINGE, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. HILL of Indiana, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. GORDON, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. Sanders, Mrs. EMERSON, and Mr. WAXMAN.

H.R. 3224: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. CLAYTON, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. NEY, and Mr. DOYLE.

H.R. 3235: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LANTOS, and Mr. SISISKY.

H.R. 3244: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. CAPUANO.

H.R. 3252: Mr. SUNUNU and Mr. COMBEST.

H.R. 3293: Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. DELAHUNT, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LARGENT, Ms. LEE, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. FARR of California, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GEJDENSON, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 3308: Mr. SHOWS, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. KING, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, and Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 3331: Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 3439: Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, and Mr. UPTON.

H.R. 3444: Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 3514: Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BOEHLERT, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. STARK, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. GEJDENSON.

H.R. 3518: Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. WOLF, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. EHRLICH, and Mr. BRADY of Texas.

H.R. 3525: Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. PITTS, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. MICA, Mr. UPTON, Mr. CANADY of Florida, Mr. TERRY, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. HILLEARY, and Mr. WAMP.

H.J. Res. 41: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.J. Res. 55: Mr. COLLINS and Mr. EHLERS.

H.J. Res. 56: Mr. ENGEL and Mr. BORSKI.

H.J. Res. 60: Mr. BOEHLERT.

H.J. Res. 77: Mr. VITTER, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, and Mr. HALL of Texas.

H. Con. Res. 62: Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAUL, Mr. MARTINEZ, and Mr. EVANS.

H. Con. Res. 77: Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. TANNER, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. WAMP, Mr. LARGENT, and Mr. DELAY.

H. Con. Res. 119: Mr. BORSKI.

H. Con. Res. 139: Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. TURNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. ROUKEMA, and Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin.

H. Con. Res. 162: Mr. GIBBONS.

H. Con. Res. 220: Ms. NORTON and Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

H. Con. Res. 238: Ms. LEE, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FARR of California, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CAPUANO, and Mr. SABO.

H. Con. Res. 240: Ms. WATERS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. VITTER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BARRET of Wisconsin, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. WEINER, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. CARSON, Mr. WYNN, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. ROEMER, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. EWING, and Mr. SABO.

H. Res. 16: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H. Res. 187: Mr. CHABOT and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H. Res. 347: Mr. NEY, Mr. WEINER, Mr. MCHUGH, and Mrs. LOWEY.