

So even from a conservative perspective, it does not make any sense. It really does not if you are trying to stimulate the economy. And that is if you believe in that way, which I personally do not, and I think we could really help stimulate the economy and solve problems. I really feel that I have been elected here to solve problems, and we are not doing that here.

One of the problems that we are encountering is that the States have difficulties with their budgets. For homeland defense, we could be providing resources to them. The VA, for example, just since 9-11 it has cost them close to 50, \$55 million just from going to code orange every time with more security and other things that they have to do. So it is costing them money and so we have to help our States, and we could help them by addressing the issue of health care and providing resources to health care. Not only would it help the States, but it also would solve a problem in a very critical area, which is the area of health care that would allow an opportunity for consumers to have access to health care.

It would allow an opportunity for the industry, the hospitals and the doctors who are having a rough time, in trauma centers who are thinking of closing down, it would have that opportunity for them to be able to get access to those resources and do the job they are required to do and do the job that is needed, so we would solve a problem and provide that access to those individual consumers out there that need access to health care. But we would also help in solving the issue and the problem that the States are having with the budgets, which is one of the issues of health care.

So instead of that \$675 billion in the form of a tax cut, we can utilize that in a much better way in the area of health care, in the area of education, in the area of meeting the needs of our veterans.

So tonight I take pride in coming up and talking about a variety of issues, but our most important issue once again to pay tribute to the visionary Cesar Chavez who helped to inspire a great number of Americans in this country in a nonviolent way.

I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity in allowing me to be here tonight, and I want to take this opportunity to say thank you very much and good night.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. SIMMONS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of attending the funeral of a constituent who was a member of the Armed Forces who was killed while serving in Iraq.

Mr. MCINNIS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of surgery.

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. HOLT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CROWLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LANGEVIN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CASE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. INSLEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. BIGGERT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELDON of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TANCREDO, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 318. An act to provide emergency assistance to nonfarm-related small business concerns that have suffered substantial economic harm from drought; to the Committee on Small Business.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.) the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 2, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1613. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of the Presidential Determination No. 2003-10, on Waiver of Conditions on Obligation and Expenditure of Funds for Planning, Design, and Construction of a Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility in Russia; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1614. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of

Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Public Housing Homeownership Program [Docket No. FR-4504-F-02] (RIN: 2577-AC15) received March 31, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1615. A letter from the Deputy Congressional Liaison, Federal Reserve Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Truth in Lending [Regulation Z; Docket No. R-1136] received March 31, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1616. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Enforcement of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Department of Homeland Security Programs or Activities (RIN: 1601-AA05) received February 28, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1617. A letter from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting notification regarding the Energy Information Administration's report entitled, "Performance Profiles of Major Energy Producers 2001"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1618. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Fleet Alternative Fuel Vehicle Acquisition Report For Fiscal Year 2001," pursuant to Public Law 105-388 section 310 112 stat. 3481; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1619. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a listing of gifts by the U.S. Government to foreign individuals for the period of January 1 through September 30, 2002, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2694(2); to the Committee on International Relations.

1620. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Exports and Reexports of Explosives Detection Equipment and Related Software and Technology; Imposition and Expansion of Foreign Policy Controls [Docket No. 030213032-3032-01] (RIN: 0694-AB87) received April 1, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

1621. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the semiannual report of the Inspector General for the period ending September 30, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1622. A letter from the Acting Director, Congressional Budget Office, transmitting the report to waive deduction of pay requirement for two reemployed annuitants; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1623. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of the Navy, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1624. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of the Navy, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1625. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1626. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the annual report concerning surplus Federal real property disposed of to educational institutions,

pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 484(o); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1627. A letter from the Director, Office of White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1628. A letter from the Attorney/Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1629. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Annual Program Performance Report for FY 2002; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1630. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the semi-annual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period ending September 30, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1631. A letter from the Comptroller General, General Accounting Office, transmitting information concerning GAO employees who were assigned to congressional committees as of January 21, 2003; to the Committee on Government Reform.

1632. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Seasonal Area Closure to Trawl, Pot, and Hook-and-Line Fishing in Waters off Cape Sarichef [Docket No. 03114012-3046-02; I.D. 121902F] (RIN: 0648-AQ46) received March 31, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1633. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery; Commercial Haddock Harvest [Docket No. 000407096-01; I.D. 031003B] received March 31, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1634. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the 2002 report on the Apportionment of Membership on the Regional Fishery Management Councils pursuant to section 302 (b)(2)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; to the Committee on Resources.

1635. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No. 021122286-3036-02; I.D. 030703A] received March 31, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

1636. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Constructive Sales Treatment for Appreciated Financial Positions—received March 18, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1637. A letter from the Chairman, MedPac, transmitting the Commission's preliminary comments on the Department of Health and Human Services per diem prospective system for inpatient psychiatric facility care; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. LINDER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 168. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 743) to amend the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional safeguards for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries with representative payees, to enhance program protections, and for other purposes (Rept. 108-54). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. MICA, Mr. OBERSTAR, and Mr. DEFazio):

H.R. 1527. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board for fiscal years 2003 through 2006, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PORTMAN:

H.R. 1528. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect taxpayers and ensure accountability of the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 1529. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code with respect to the dismissal of certain involuntary cases; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NUSSLE (for himself, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. GRAVES, and Mr. PAUL):

H.R. 1530. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the exemption from tax for small property and casualty insurance companies; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCCREERY:

H.R. 1531. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance energy conservation and to provide for reliability and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland (for himself, Mr. ANDREWS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. TANCREDO, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 1532. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to strengthen enforcement of provisions relating to animal fighting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. BIGGERT (for herself and Mr. FORD):

H.R. 1533. A bill to amend the securities laws to permit church pension plans to be invested in collective trusts; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STARK, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. MCDERMOTT):

H.R. 1534. A bill to improve the ability of the child welfare system to prevent and respond to child abuse and place children in safe, loving, and permanent homes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ENGLISH:

H.R. 1535. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the mid-quarter convention for depreciable property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HERGER (for himself, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. CRANE, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. SAM

JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. HOUGHTON, and Mr. FOLEY):

H.R. 1536. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat distributions from publicly traded partnerships as qualifying income of regulated investment companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JOHN:

H.R. 1537. A bill to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to clarify that restrictions on baiting of migratory game birds do not prohibit the taking of a migratory game bird on or over manipulated re-growth of a harvested rice crop; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. STEARNS):

H.R. 1538. A bill to posthumously award congressional gold medals to government workers and others who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and perished and to people aboard United Airlines Flight 93 who helped resist the hijackers and caused the plane to crash, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Spirit of America, recognizing the tragic events of September 11, 2001, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. KLECZKA (for himself and Mr. STARK):

H.R. 1539. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to limit the hospital ownership exception to physician self-referral restrictions to interests purchased on terms generally available to the public; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. CASE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DELAUNO, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WEXLER, and Ms. WOOLSEY):

H.R. 1540. A bill to ensure greater accountability by licensed firearms dealers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. WYNN):

H.R. 1541. A bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to provide for a just apportionment of Representatives in Congress for all States; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. OWENS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mrs. LOWEY):

H.R. 1542. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to modify the terms of the community disaster loan program, to authorize assistance under that program for losses related to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. BAKER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. MOORE, Mr. SHAYS, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas,