

RECOGNIZING MORE THAN 5 DECADES OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 364.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. HARRIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 364, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 0, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 71]

YEAS—408

Abercrombie Chabot Gephardt
Ackerman Chandler Gerlach
Aderholt Chocola Gibbons
Akin Clay Gilchrest
Alexander Clyburn Gillmor
Allen Coble Gingrey
Andrews Cole Gonzalez
Baca Collins Goode
Bachus Cooper Goodlatte
Baird Costello Gordon
Baker Cox Goss
Baldwin Cramer Granger
Ballance Crane Graves
Ballenger Crenshaw Green (TX)
Barrett (SC) Crowley Green (WI)
Bartlett (MD) Cubin Greenwood
Barton (TX) Cummings Grijalva
Bass Cunningham Gutierrez
Beauprez Davis (CA) Gutknecht
Becerra Davis (IL) Hall
Bell Davis (TN) Harris
Bereuter Davis, Jo Ann Hart
Berkley Davis, Tom Hastings (FL)
Berman DeFazio Hastings (WA)
Berry DeGette Hayes
Biggett Delahunt Hayworth
Bilirakis DeLauro Hefley
Bishop (GA) DeLay Hensarling
Bishop (NY) DeMint Hegerger
Bishop (UT) Deutsch Hill
Blumenauer Diaz-Balart, L. Hinojosa
Blunt Diaz-Balart, M. Hobson
Boehrlert Dicks Hoeffel
Bonilla Dingell Hoekstra
Bonner Doggett Holden
Bono Dooley (CA) Holt
Boozman Doolittle Honda
Boswell Doyle Hooley (OR)
Boucher Dreier Houghton
Boyd Duncan Hoyer
Bradley (NH) Dunn Hulshof
Brady (PA) Edwards Hunter
Brady (TX) Ehlers Hyde
Brown (OH) Emanuel Inslee
Brown (SC) Emerson Isakson
Brown, Corrine Engel Israel
Brown-Waite, English Issa
Ginny Eshoo Istock
Burgess Etheridge Jackson (IL)
Burns Evans Jefferson
Burr Everett Jenkins
Burton (IN) Farr Johnson (CT)
Buyer Fattah Johnson (IL)
Calvert Feeney Johnson, E. B.
Camp Ferguson Johnson, Sam
Cannon Filner Jones (NC)
Cantor Flake Jones (OH)
Capito Foley Kanjorski
Capps Forbes Kaptur
Capuano Ford Keller
Cardin Fossella Kelly
Cardoza Frank (MA) Kennedy (MN)
Carson (IN) Franks (AZ) Kennedy (RI)
Carson (OK) Frelinghuysen Kildee
Carter Frost Kilpatrick
Case Gallegly Kind
Castle Garrett (NJ) King (IA)

King (NY) Neal (MA)
Kingston Nethercutt
Kirk Neugebauer
Kleczka Ney
Kline Northup
Knollenberg Norwood
Kolbe Nunes
LaHood Nussle
Lampson Oberstar
Langevin Obey
Lantos Olver
Larsen (WA) Ortiz
Larson (CT) Osborne
Latham Ose
LaTourette Otter
Leach Owens
Lee Oxley
Levin Pallone
Lewis (CA) Pascrell
Lewis (GA) Pastor
Lewis (KY) Paul
Linder Payne
Lipinski Pearce
LoBiondo Pelosi
Lofgren Pence
Lowey Peterson (MN)
Lucas (KY) Peterson (PA)
Lucas (OK) Petri
Lynch Pickering
Majette Pitts
Maloney Platts
Manzullo Pombo
Markey Pomeroy
Marshall Porter
Matheson Portman
Matsui Price (NC)
McCarthy (MO) Pryce (OH)
McCarthy (NY) Putnam
McCollum Quinn
McCotter Rahall
McCrery Ramstad
McDermott Rangel
McGovern Regula
McHugh Rehberg
McInnis Renzi
McIntyre Reyes
McKeon Reynolds
McNulty Rodriguez
Meehan Rogers (AL)
Meek (FL) Rogers (KY)
Meeks (NY) Rohrabacher
Menendez Ros-Lehtinen
Mica Ross
Michaud Rothman
Hart Roybal-Allard
McDonald Royce
Miller (FL) Ruppersberger
Miller (MI) Rush
Miller (NC) Ryan (OH)
Miller, Gary Ryan (WI)
Mollohan Ryun (KS)
Moore Sabo
Moran (KS) Sanchez, Linda
Moran (VA) T.
Murphy Sanchez, Loretta
Murtha Sanders
Musgrave Sandlin
Myrick Saxton
Nadler Schakowsky
Napolitano Schiff

Schrock
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Sullivan
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tierney
Towns
Turner (OH)
Turner (TX)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—25

Blackburn Hostettler
Boehner Jackson-Lee
Conyers (TX) Stark
Culberson John Tauszin
Davis (AL) Kucinich Terry
Davis (FL) Miller, George Tiberi
Deal (GA) Radanovich Toomey
Harman Rogers (MI) Velazquez
Hinchev Shimkus Whitfield

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1428

So (two thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), the distinguished majority leader, for the purpose of inquiring of the majority leader the schedule for the coming week.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland, the distinguished whip, for yielding to me, and I will try to be brief as I am sure my friend is anxious to get back to watch the end of the Terps game.

Mr. HOYER. He is right.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, the House will convene on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider several measures under suspension of the rules. A final list of those bills will be sent to Members' offices by the end of this week. Any votes called on these measures will be rolled until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will convene at 10 a.m. We plan to consider the budget resolution for fiscal year 2005. We would hope to complete several hours of general debate on Wednesday before moving into the amendment process on Thursday.

And, finally, I would like to note for all the Members, and they should take note, that we are making a change to the schedule that was sent to offices at the beginning of the year. We do not plan to have votes next Friday, March 26.

I thank the gentleman for yielding and would be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the information. There are, of course, so many things which disappoint us when the majority leader announces them; but that is not one of them, I assure him.

I appreciate the majority leader's advice that Wednesday and Thursday we will be considering the budget, obviously one of the most important policy documents that we consider. And it appears from his announcement that there will be substantial time on Wednesday and substantial time on Thursday, I presume, for a full and fair debate on the underlying proposal that will be reported out of the committee, as well as such substitutes as may be made in order. Is that correct?

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I really anticipate next week's process to resemble years past. I do not want to presuppose what the Committee on Rules would do, but I would think that we would likely have an extended general debate in the neighborhood of 4 or 5 hours.

□ 1430

In addition, the Committee on Rules could and will likely make in order

multiple substitutes, and assuming that they are legitimate budget resolutions, and we will have a very vigorous debate.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. I think that is very important for the House and for the American people, and we look forward to that discussion and the substitutes. As the gentleman knows, we will have the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT), our ranking member, who will have a substitute. I expect the Black Caucus to have a substitute, and perhaps there will be some other substitutes as well. Certainly the Blue Dogs will have a substitute, all of which I think, in the gentleman's understanding of it, would be very substantive budget resolution proposals, and we anticipate them being made in order so we can debate each of those as well.

Mr. Speaker, one of the other aspects, as the majority leader knows, there has been a lot of discussion about enforcement mechanisms. We believe on this side of the aisle that enforcement mechanisms are critically important if we are going to get to balance at some time in the future, which is our objective and I think the gentleman's objective as well.

Can the gentleman tell me when and in what form enforcement mechanisms will be brought to the floor? I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. Obviously, the Committee on the Budget passed out a budget mechanism that will be considered by the Committee on Rules. I have no idea at this point in time when we could schedule such a thing. There are a lot of Members on our side and the gentleman's side that want to participate in this process that have a lot of good ideas. I think this issue needs to ripen a bit. The Committee on Rules claims some jurisdiction in this regard and they want to look at and mark up their own bill.

This is a process that actually just got started yesterday by the Committee on the Budget marking up a bill and moving it out of their committee, so I really cannot say. I do not know when is the earliest. We have a pretty full schedule next week and the following week and then, as the gentleman knows, we break for the spring district work period. But it is vitally important, everybody wants to bring fiscal discipline to the budget process and show that this House can have fiscal responsibility, and we think that is an important bill and we will bring it to the floor as soon as it is ready.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman for his response. I would observe that, clearly, enforcement mechanisms we believe are critically important as we consider the budget in the mid-2005 budget, but also the outyears as well, whether we use a 5-year or 10-year budget analysis.

Without enforcement mechanisms, obviously, we really do not know what

we are doing. We can say we are doing something, but without enforcement mechanisms to make sure that, in fact, we are controlling spending, controlling revenues, controlling entitlements, we do not have really a budget that is meaningful and enforceable. So we are hopeful that that will come relatively soon.

We would like to do it contemporaneously, but I understand what the gentleman is saying; the Committee on Rules wants to consider that. The Senate I think considered that contemporaneously and, of course, there are some in this country who have made it very clear that an enforcement mechanism that impacts on both spending and on revenues was the only kind of enforcement that would really be meaningful. I know there is a difference of opinion among people on that issue, but we think that needs to be debated fairly soon and fairly proximate to close the consideration of the budget.

Mr. Leader, my last question would be, if the gentleman knows, and I notice we have a member of the Committee on Rules on the floor, when will substitutes need to be filed, if the gentleman knows; or can the gentleman inform us when substitutes will need to be filed?

Mr. DELAY. As soon as we can get back to the Terps game, I think the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) is going to stand up and announce when they should be filed.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, in a world of priorities, the gentleman just got mine.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2005

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of March 22 to grant a rule which would limit the amendment process for the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2005.

Any Member who wishes to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in Room H-312 of the Capitol, no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23. As in past years, the Committee on Rules intends to give priority to amendments offered as complete substitutes.

Members are advised that the text of the concurrent resolution, as ordered, reported by the Committee on the Budget, should be available on the Web sites of both the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Rules on Friday, March 19.

Mr. Speaker, Members should use the Office of Legislative Council and the Congressional Budget Office to make

sure that their substitute amendments are properly drafted and scored, and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain that their amendments comply with the Rules of the House.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourns to meet at noon on Monday, March 22, 2004.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

HOOR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, March 22, 2004, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23, for morning hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my Special Order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Rhode Island?

There was no objection.