

Mr. DELAY. That is correct.

Mr. HOYER. I had asked the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) whether or not he contemplated any action on Monday. He indicated that he had not. Subsequently, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) have talked, but I do not know whether the gentleman from South Carolina knows that at this point in time. Do we know whether they have really made a decision on that? I know the gentleman hopes to do that, but would it be fair to believe that this matter is still under consideration, or is the gentleman positive that there will be action on Monday afternoon?

Mr. DELAY. All I can tell the gentleman is what I know and what I have been advised of. I have been advised that the Budget Committee, at least the House, and the conference committee wanted to start meeting as early as Tuesday morning. In order for that to happen, we would have to go to conference Monday evening.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Leader, let me correct for the record because I was in error, it is my understanding that Mr. Kahn has been told, who is our chief clerk on the Budget Committee. I am sure that the gentleman from South Carolina now knows. I thank the leader for his comment. I wanted to clarify that, that we have received, apparently, notice.

Is it the majority leader's thought in light of the fact that we will be leaving next Friday for a 2-week break, district work period, that the conference report will be returned to the House next week? Would it be the gentleman's expectation that we might take up the conference report next week?

Mr. DELAY. Certainly we would like to reach an agreement with the Senate prior to our district work period. For that reason, Members really should anticipate a very long workweek next week, because we would want to give the House and Senate negotiators all the time that they need in order to hopefully get this done and passed by both Houses before we leave next week. I know that is asking a lot of Members, but it would be nice if we could get the budget done before we break for the district work period.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments. One additional, and I think final, item, the continuity of Congress challenge that we have has been discussed. There are obviously a number of different proposals, including constitutional amendments, as well as legislative action, as well as rules considerations. We have heard on this side there may be something happening next week. The gentleman did not mention it in his announcement. Can he tell us whether or not there is any possibility of having that matter on the floor next week.

Mr. DELAY. I appreciate the gentleman asking about the continuity in Congress bill. We had it sort of waiting

in the wings, but it looks like next week is going to be a pretty full week, and we may have to look for another time to bring that bill to the floor.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that information.

Reclaiming my time, I think we still have some work to do on that, hopefully in a bipartisan fashion. This is obviously a critical problem confronting the Congress and the American people. Hopefully, perhaps, we can reach some agreement on that. If we had some extra time, that might be possible.

Mr. DELAY. I want to congratulate the gentleman, because I know he has worked on it and others have. I have been very pleased with the bipartisanship that has been exhibited in working on this continuity of government bill. I am very pleased that it is coming along. I think we can continue to work together and come to some sort of solution to protect this House in case of some calamity.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the leader for his comment.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,
MARCH 29, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, March 29, 2004, for morning hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). 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.

AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CON-
SIDERATION OF H.R. 3966, ROTC
AND MILITARY RECRUITER
EQUAL ACCESS TO CAMPUS ACT
OF 2004

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of March 29 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 3966, the ROTC and Military Recruiter Equal Access to Campus Act of 2004. The Committee on Armed Services ordered the bill reported on March 17 and filed its report in House on March 23.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 1 p.m. on Monday, March 29.

Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported by the Committee on Armed Services.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CON-
SIDERATION OF H.R. 3550, TRAN-
SPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEG-
ACY FOR USERS

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of March 29 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 3550, the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy For Users. The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure ordered the bill reported on March 24.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 30. Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported by Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure which is available for their review on the Web sites of both the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure as well as the Committee on Rules.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain that their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF ROB-
ERT N. BROWN, COLUMBUS, INDI-
ANA, NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, today the city of Columbus, Indiana, bid farewell to one of its great sons, Robert N. Brown. Robert N. Brown was born 83 years ago in the city of Columbus. During the course of his lifetime, he was a publisher of newspapers, a founder of newspapers, a World War II veteran who went ashore on Omaha Beach on D-Day Plus 3, the proud father of four and grandfather to many, many more in our community. It was my privilege to offer the eulogy today at First Christian Church in Columbus, Indiana.

I rise today to offer my condolences to the family and to the community at his loss. May he and his family feel the peace of Christ in this time of loss.