

has done, and other Presidents, many Presidents have exercised this option, the constitutionality of which I think is somewhat troubling. But this President has used Presidential signing statements more than any other Presidents combined. He has added more than 700 signing statements to legislation that we have adopted in both Houses of Congress. And what he does is he adds a note essentially to the bottom of the bill or to the margin of the bill next to a section that he doesn't agree with and he says: "I either reserve the right to not enforce this section or to interpret this section in this way." I mean, literally taking authority for the executive branch that I believe the Founding Fathers didn't envision. I mean, he did that with the PATRIOT Act, he did that with a number of significant pieces of legislation, Mr. MEEK, and it is really, really troubling.

The executive branch in the Constitution does not have the right to interpret legislation. That is not their job. It is the Judiciary's responsibility to interpret legislation; it is the administration's job to execute what is laid before them by the Congress. Now, he certainly has the right to veto legislation that he doesn't agree with, but he doesn't have a line item veto; he doesn't have a line item veto in the budget, and he can't X out a portion of a bill that he doesn't like. And we are going to be holding a hearing on Wednesday, and we will have the Department of Justice representatives there to question very carefully where they think they get this legislative authority, and reassert Congress's role in oversight in this one area and in many others, as you detailed.

I guess we are in the wrapping-it-up stage, because that is when the Web site chart comes out. I will be happy to yield to our good friend and freshman colleague, the gentleman from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Thank you, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. And the guilt is deep inside me that I am stealing Mr. RYAN's thunder for twice in a row here.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. If the gentleman would yield, life is about letting go.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Moving on.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. You have got to move on. And you are the guy.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. I am glad I can help you with that cathartic experience.

WWW.speaker.gov/30something is where you can find information on a lot of things we have talked about here. I am here to work, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and I know there are about 40 other first termers who are here to do the same thing.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Actually, not to be the teacher exercising oversight over the freshman, but probably give out our e-mail address, too, so people know where they can contact us.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. The e-mail address is 30SomethingDems@

mail.house.gov. So I like nothing more than to be the student in this relationship, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. I am with you and the 40-something new Members of Congress.

Madam Speaker, it was an honor to come before the House once again. I want to thank the Democratic leadership for allowing us to have the hour, and we yield back the balance of our time.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPPS). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2302

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. CAPPS) at 11 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. EDWARDS (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of medical reasons.

Mr. GUTIERREZ (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of district business.

Mr. McDERMOTT (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of a death in the family.

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of official business.

Mr. BACHUS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of illness in the family.

Mr. HASTERT (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today and the balance of the week.

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

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. DREIER, for 5 minutes, today, January 30 and 31.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, January 30 and 31.

Ms. FOX, for 5 minutes, today, January 30 and 31.

Mr. ROHRBACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOSSELLA, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mrs. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 188. An act to provide a new effective date for the applicability of certain provisions of law to Public Law 105-331.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kareen L. Haas, Clerk of the House reports that on January 25, 2007, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 475. To revise the composition of the House of Representatives Page Board to equalize the number of members representing the majority and minority parties and to include a member representing the parents of pages and a member representing former pages, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, January 30, 2007, at 10:30 a.m., for morning hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

464. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Arizona; Miami Sulfur Dioxide State Implementation Plan and Request for Redesignation to Attainment; Correction of Boundry of Miami Sulfur Dioxide Nonattainment Area [EPA-R09-OAR-2006-0580; FRL-8270-3] received January 19, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

465. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; El Paso County Carbon Monoxide Redesignation to Attainment, and Approval of Maintenance Plan