

Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,  
Washington, DC, January 6, 1999.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am forwarding to you the Committee's recommendations for certain designations required by law for the 106th Congress.

First, pursuant to Section 8002 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the Committee designated the following members to serve on the Joint Committee on Taxation for the 106th Congress: Mr. Archer, Mr. Crane, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Rangel and Mr. Stark.

Second, pursuant to Section 161 of the Trade Act of 1974, the Committee recommended the following members to serve as official advisors for international conference meetings and negotiating sessions on trade agreements: Mr. Archer, Mr. Crane, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Rangel and Mr. Levin.

With best personal regards, I am  
Sincerely,

BILL ARCHER, *Chairman.*

□ 1415

#### RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Government Reform:

CONGRESS OF UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
January 7, 1999.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby respectfully request a leave of absence from the Committee on Government Reform, effective immediately. My request is made with the understanding that I will retain all seniority on the Committee.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER COX,  
U.S. Representative.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

#### PROPOSED BILL FOR YUCCA MOUNTAIN, NEVADA, TEM- PORARY NUCLEAR WASTE STOR- AGE FACILITY HAS DISASTROUS IMPACTS ON DISTRICTS

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, early on in the 106th session of Congress, in the first few weeks, we have already seen a disastrous bill introduced to establish a temporary nuclear waste storage facility in Nevada. Several problems, Mr. Speaker, become very evident when this legislation is examined.

First, it is moving nuclear waste from 109 reactor sites, which would traverse 43 States and endanger the lives of every person along these routes. Also, the geologic suitability of the site is in question. In the last 20 years there have been more than 621 earthquakes within a 50-mile radius of the proposed site.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates a central interim storage facility like this will cost \$2.3 billion, seven times more expensive than expanding the current on-site storage at these power generating facilities.

The facts demonstrate some of the major problems associated with this bill: the safety of every American, and the fleecing of every taxpayer in this country. Educating the American people on issues as important as this should be every Member's responsibility, because they are the ones who will be held responsible for the devastating impacts on their districts.

#### FURBYS CITED AS THREAT TO U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the President is on trial, we are bombing Baghdad, Kosovo is in turmoil, and the American steel industry is literally being raped.

After all this, the National Security Agency has designated a new major threat to our Republic, the furby; that is right, this furby cyberpet, that stands 4 inches tall and sells for \$30, has just been designated as the next great threat to our freedom.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. Beam me up. I say, the only threat these furbys really pose is they seem to appear to be much smarter than the bungling nincompoops at the National Security Agency. I recommend, for \$30 a smack, here, that we hire furbys and fire those bureaucrats. Think about that one. Furby this, James Bond.

#### LET WORKERS OWN THEIR POR- TION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY FUND INVESTMENT IN THE STOCK MARKET

(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, I rise to commend the President for his decision to tackle the social security issue in his tonight's State of the Union Address. I welcome his leadership on this critical issue, and I look forward to his proposal that I hope is complete and that can be scored by the Social Security Administration actuaries in a way that will keep social security solvent.

I am encouraged that the President has recognized the power of the capital markets to increase the return on social security taxes, and that he specifically is suggesting investments in the stock market. I urge the President to let workers own these investments themselves, rather than have government use and spend these revenues, as they have the social security trust fund.

The Supreme Court has ruled that there is no relation between the taxes that a worker pays and what the worker is entitled to receive in benefits when they retire. This means that worker-owned accounts are the only way to make sure workers benefit from these investments, rather than government.

#### EDUCATION: SPEND MONEY IN THE CLASSROOMS, NOT ON BU- REAUCRACY

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

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, nothing is more important to Americans than the education of their children. Schools are one of the prides of our local communities, and we must do all that we can do to strengthen them. It is parents and it is teachers that know what is best for our children, and they are the ones that we must empower.

The Dollars to the Classroom Act signals a dramatic shift in how Federal education dollars are delivered to our Nation's schools. In today's system, too many precious education dollars get lost in the bureaucracy, in the red tape. This money must be spent in the classrooms, not on more bureaucracy. That is why the Dollars to the Classroom Act is so important. It represents what our schools should be, schools where parents and local school districts decide what is the best way to teach their children, not Washington.

This legislation requires that 95 percent of Federal funds be spent in the classrooms. This is one of our Republican education proposals. Currently only 65 percent of funds actually reach classrooms for our children. They are spent here in the bureaucracy.

Our children are our future leaders. It is strong moves like these that will improve our local schools, and improve the quality of life for every American. I urge support for the Dollars to the Classroom Act.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). 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.