

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Friday, July 16, 1999

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

At the beginning of this day we pause in the quiet of this place to offer our thanks and praise to You, O God, for the wonderful gifts of love that You have made available to us and to all people. We know that we were not created to be alone, but to share in the blessings that You have given, to care for one another in our sorrows and to celebrate together in our joys. Whatever our situation we are grateful, O God, that You are with us and will never depart from us. For these and all Your blessings, we offer these words of prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MOAKLEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2035. An act to correct errors in the authorizations of certain programs administered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 468. An act to improve the effectiveness and performance of Federal financial assistance programs, simplify Federal financial assistance application and reporting requirements, and improve the delivery of services to the public.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain 1-minutes at the end of legislative business today.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 434, AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 250 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 250

Resolved, That, at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 434) to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed ninety minutes, with forty-five minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on International Relations and forty-five minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committees on International Relations and Ways and Means now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of H.R. 2489. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments printed in the report are waived. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to

the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The gentleman from New York (Mr. REYNOLDS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Rules, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of the resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

House Resolution 250 is a structured rule, providing for the consideration of H.R. 434, the African Growth and Opportunity Act. The purpose of this legislation is to authorize a new trade and investment policy for sub-Saharan Africa.

The rule provides for 45 minutes of general debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and the ranking member of the Committee on International Relations.

Additionally, the rule provides 45 minutes of general debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The rule also provides that it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of text of H.R. 2489, which represents the combined work product of the two committees with jurisdiction.

The rule provides for consideration of only the amendments printed in the Committee on Rules report accompanying the resolution.

The rule further provides that the amendments will be considered only in the order specified in the report; may be offered only by a Member designated in the report; shall be considered as read; shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; shall not be subject to amendment; and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

The rule waives all points of order against the bill, against the amendment in the nature of a substitute, and against amendments printed in the report.

The rule allows the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.