

body retire to some special orders for a while, some discussion. We will have a few minutes to sort things out, at which time we can get back in touch with the Members, either by announcement of the floor or through the whip organizations.

We do anticipate that we will in very short order be able to resume work, having more votes on issues related to the appropriations and budget cycle. But it is just one of these times where we sort of have to fall back, regroup, and assess things, and make sure we have precise information to exchange between the two sides so we can reach agreement to proceed.

If the body would indulge us in that regard, we would be back in touch with Members, who we would ask to stay close to an information source, I am sure within the next 30 minutes at the outset.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, let me just say to the gentleman from Texas that we understand how difficult at the end of a session it is to put the various pieces together and to wrap things up. But we also understand the need to utilize the time of the membership in the best possible way.

I was wondering if not, in a cooperative spirit, if we, indeed, are going to go to a CR that may, in fact, take us into next week, that we could do that at a relatively early hour this evening so Members could finish their business and leave and go home and ready and fresh for tomorrow's work. A lot of my colleague are asking about the action of even rolling the vote until tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY) for a response.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding to me. I think at this point in the evening, we need to reserve the opportunity for Members to have one or more recorded votes this evening on important legislative matters. If in fact that does not come to pass, I will communicate that as quickly as can I to the Members.

I do understand we have families, and we would like to be home or with our families. I can promise the Members that I will get this sorted out as quickly as possible and advise the Members.

We will be here working tomorrow. We will have votes tomorrow. Even as we proceed during the day tomorrow, I am sure there will be opportunities where we will just have to take a moment, sort things out, make sure we have the appropriate matters in the appropriate time sequencing, and make similar announcements to the body.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, when the gentleman from Texas spoke earlier, he mentioned 30 minutes as I recall; is that correct.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, again, if the gentleman will yield, as soon as I leave the floor, I will get to the key

people with whom we have to consult, get the information sorted out, set the plan for the rest of the night, and then make that announcement to the Members.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, can the gentleman from Texas give me the prognosis for next week, or is that all contingent upon the discussions the gentleman has just referred to?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, as the song from My Fair Lady goes, "with a little bit of luck", we will not be here. Other than that, we would just have to assess things up, and that would be one of those announcements that I could give with some degree of clarity and reliability tomorrow.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY).

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to make clear I have been told by the majority side on the Committee on Appropriations that there is a possibility that the committee will be asked to go to the Committee on Rules tonight to get a rule under which we could then consider the continuing resolution.

I would like to make it clear that we see no reason to tie all Members up for the remainder of the evening. If what is being contemplated is a simple, straight continuing resolution with no funny business, we are perfectly happy to provide unanimous consent so that we can take it up without wasting Member's time, and I would think we could voice it very quickly.

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

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

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, obviously the body appreciates the fine generous offer from the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY). I want to give the gentleman from Wisconsin every assurance that there will be a straight continuing resolution with no funny business. But it is just one of the things I want to be very clear about before I stand before my colleagues and say, yes, that is the request we make of them.

So I want to be able to make the precise request for my colleagues' agreement that we can define through the appropriate discussions with our colleagues. That should be done in just a few minutes.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, we vote against any funny business on our side, and we hope the gentleman will concur.

PERMISSION TO CONSIDER SPECIAL ORDER IN MEMORY OF THE LATE HONORABLE GEORGE E. BROWN FIRST

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, as we begin some special orders in this in-

terim planning period, I am advised that there are members of the family of the former Member, George Brown, in attendance to the body at this very moment. We have a host of Members who would like to take some time to pay their respects to Mr. Brown. They are listed for a special order this evening.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the memory of George Brown, I ask unanimous consent that those Members who would like to have this discussion proceed with the proviso that they would yield for me to make any announcements or for us to take up any work that we would have to do later in the evening.

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

There was no objection.

□ 2000

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2907

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove as cosponsor of my bill, H.R. 2907, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUSPENSIONS TO BE CONSIDERED ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1999

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 353, I rise to announce the following suspensions to be considered tomorrow.

H. Res. 41, Honoring American Military Women for Their Service in World War II Resolution;

H.R. 1869, Stalking Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1999;

H.R. 2336, the United States Marshals Service Improvement Act of 1999;

H.R. 2442, a very important piece of legislation, the Wartime Violation of Italian American Civil Liberties Act;

H. Con. Res. 122, recognizing the United States Border Patrol's 75 years of service since its founding;

H.R. 3234, to exempt certain reports from automatic elimination and sunset pursuant to the Federal Reports and Elimination and Sunset Act of 1995;

And, finally, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2454, the Arctic Tundra Habitat Emergency Conservation Act.

Those are the suspensions that will be considered tomorrow, Mr. Speaker.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, on November 4 and November 5, 1999, I was away from Washington on official business and unable to vote on several matters. Had I been present on rollcall 563,