November 18, 1999

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Janes E. Graham, Secretary.
Regina L. Martinez, Secretary.
Johann O’Keeffe, Secretary.
Tracey E. Russell, Secretary.
Joyce C. Stover, Secretary.
Mr. OBEY, Merry Christmas. Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Happy Thanksgiving.
Mr. OBEY, Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.
Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 387 would grant the waiver of any points of order on the motion to allow consideration of the joint resolution. I yield the customary 30 minutes.
Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

congressional record—house 30721

removal of name of member as cosponsor of h.r. 2699

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2699.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

waiving points of order against conference report h.r. 1180, ticket to work and work incentives improvement act of 1999

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up H.R. 1180 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk reads the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 387
Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order for the Committee on Ways and Means to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1180) to amend the Social Security Act to expand the availability of health care coverage for working individuals with disabilities, to establish a Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program in the Social Security Administration to provide such individuals with meaningful opportunities to work, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the conference agreement also provide for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SPEAKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). All time for debate has expired.

The joint resolution, as amended, is agreed to.

A motion reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON NATION’S ACHIEVEMENTS IN AERONAUTICS AND SPACE DURING FISCAL YEAR 1998—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Science:

To the Congress of the United States:
I am pleased to transmit this report on the Nation’s achievements in aeronautics and space during Fiscal Year (FY) 1998, as required under section 206 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2277e). Aeronautics and space activities involved 14 contributing departments and agencies of the Federal Government, and the results of their ongoing research and development affect the Nation in many ways. A wide variety of aeronautics and space developments took place during FY 1998. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) successfully completed five Space Shuttle flights. There were 29 successful Expendable Launch Vehicle (ELV) launches in FY 1998. Of those, 3 were NASA-managed missions, 2 were NASA-funded/Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-licensed missions, 8 were Department of Defense (DOD)-managed missions, and 16 were FAA-licensed commercial launches. Scientists also made some dramatic new discoveries in various space-related fields such as space science, Earth science, and remote sensing, and life and microgravity science. In aeronautics, activities included work on high-speed research, advanced subsonic technology, and technologies designed to improve the safety and efficiency of our commercial airlines and air traffic control system.

Close international cooperation with Russia occurred on the Shuttle-Mir docking missions and on the ISS program. The United States also entered into new forms of cooperation with its partners in Europe, South America, and Asia.

Thus, FY 1998 was a very successful one for U.S. aeronautics and space programs. Efforts in these areas have contributed significantly to the Nation’s scientific and technical knowledge, international cooperation, a healthier environment, and a more competitive economy.

William J. Clinton.

The White House, November 18, 1999.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE
and the Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit as well as providing tax relief for individ-
uals and families by protecting at least 1 million families from higher taxes
over the next 3 years due to the AMT tax. Finally, the measure includes ap-
proximately $2.6 billion in revenue offsets over the next 5 years and $2.9 bil-
lion over the next 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the gen-
tleman from Texas (Chairman ARCHER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), ranking member; for their leadership in resolving the many com-
plex issues contained in this legislation and urge my colleagues to support both
the rule and the conference report itself.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of
my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I
yield myself such time as I may con-
sume, and I want to thank the gen-
tleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard it said that
human beings exhibit their most cre-
ative potential when they are kinder-
garten age. Well, whoever said that
probably needs to spend a little time
around here at the end of a session.
There is some very creative work being
done.

Vexing problems which have been
around for months and may be even
years are suddenly solved when the
sand runs out of the congressional
hour glass, or they are suddenly
turned into bargaining chips. Witness
what is happening with reproductive
rights and the payment of our UN
debts.

Major issues which have languished
unattended are addressed and then
tossed abroad whenever the legislative
vehicle is leaving the station. Mean-
while, many others, such as the bill of
rights protecting people from their
HMOs or their right to fight gun violence
never get their tickets punched.

But rest assured, Mr. Speaker, the
American people want a Patients' Bill
of Rights, they want us to do better on
gun violence, and they will be watching
when we return in the year 2000.

As for the rule which is currently be-
fore us, H. Res. 387, it provides for the
consideration of several disparate
issues which have been corralled under
a single bill title.

Part A of the bill is the Work Incentives
Improvement Act, a bill to mod-
ernize our woefully outdated national
disability policies.

When policies on Medicaid and other
programs for the disabled were first de-
veloped decades ago, having a dis-
ability often meant that an individual
is confined to home or an institution.
Today, however, with advances in tech-
nology, training, and rehabilitation,
many individuals with disabilities are
allowed to hold good jobs and live very
full lives in the mainstream of society.

The Work Incentives Improvement
Act will allow persons with disabilities
to continue receiving certain benefits,
particularly health coverage, while re-
turning to work. The proposal also pro-
vides for more State flexibility and
serving individuals with disabilities
through health programs, associated
services like transportation assistance,
and training.

This legislation does not benefit only
persons with disabilities, it also has
major benefits for the Federal Govern-
ment and the taxpayer. If an additional
one-half of 1 percent of the current So-
cial Security Disability and Supple-
mental Security Income recipients
were to cease receiving benefits as a re-
sult of employment, the savings and
cash assistance would total $3.5 billion
over the worklife of the individuals.

This worthy legislation was passed
by the House overwhelmingly earlier
this year, and I expect it will enjoy
similar support today.

Part B of the underlying bill is a col-
lection of tax extenders. I am pleased
that this agreement includes a 5-year
extension for research and development
credit. Science and technology are
critical for our future development, our
knowledge about the world around us,
and our understanding of ourselves.

I have long been a strong supporter
of incentives to encourage businesses
to invest in the development of new
 technologies and products. Through its
existence, the R&D tax credit has
served as a fundamental component of
our Nation's competitiveness strategy
by increasing the amount of research
undertaken by the private sector.

One key provision which I would
have strongly supported had it been al-
lowed to remain in the bill would have
entitled workers to better pension ben-
efits through what is known as section
415 of the tax code. But, regrettably,
this provision was left at the station.

In addition, the bill includes a delay
in the implementation of rules pro-
posed by the Department of Health and
Human Services to restructure organ
allocation in our Nation. While this
delay is not likely to please people on
either side of this emotional issue, it
should at least allow the Congress to
debate this matter more fully when we
return in January.

Mr. Speaker, my main regret on the
legislation is that we are dealing with
what should have been several bills and
are, instead, forced to consider them as
a single package. This approach limits
debate and prohibits many Members
from exercising their right to discuss
the legislation. It is unfair and it is un-
necessary. There is no reason why
these bills should not have been brought
up earlier under open rules with full
debate. This is to say nothing of the
many, many worthwhile bills that are being
brushed aside altogether in the major-
ity's rush to adjourn.

But we are coming back with re-
newed energy and commitment to pass-
ing the Patients' Bill of Rights, in-
creasing the minimum wage for work-
ing families, and halting the violence
and gunfire which threatens our homes
and our communities.

Mr. Speaker, by all accounts, this
will be the final rule to be considered
this century. This is also the final rule
of this millennium. Those of us who
serve on this important committee are
keenly aware of its historical and insti-
tutional role in this Congress on behalf
of the American people. Grounded by
that tradition and honored by the op-
portunity, we are thankful to the Mem-
bers who have gone before us, and we
look forward to the new millennium
and meeting the challenges facing the
American people in the 21st Century. I
am grateful for my colleagues on the
Committee on Rules.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of
my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr.
Speaker, I yield myself such time as I
may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentle-
woman from New York (Ms. SLAUGH-
TER) for noting that this is the last
rule of this millennium. From my per-
spective, I had forgotten about that,
and I thank the gentlewoman for bring-
ing it up.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of
my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I
have no requests for time, and I yield
back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr.
Speaker, I yield back the balance of
my time, and I move the previous ques-
tion on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the
table.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO CERT-
AIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF
THE HOUSE

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I offer a
resolution (H. Res. 391), and I ask unan-
imous consent for its consideration in
the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The
Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. Res. 391

Resolved. That the following named Mem-
ber be, and is hereby, elected to the fol-
lowing standing Committees of the House of
Representatives:
Committee on Agricult"ure and Committee
on Science: Mr. Baca of California.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there
objection to the request of the gen-
tleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the
table.