SEC. 5. The Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and Senate, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

Snc. 4. The Congress declares that clause 2(b) of rule II of the Rules of the President of the Senate, Representatives and the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, authorize for the duration of the One Hundred Sixth Congress the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate, respectively, to receive messages from the President during periods when the House and Senate are not in session, and thereby preserve until adjournment sine die of the final regular session of the One Hundred Sixth Congress the constitutional prerogative of the House and Senate to reconsider vetoed measures in light of the objections of the President, since the availability of the Clerk and the Secretary during any earlier adjournment of either House during the current Congress does not prevent the return by the President of any bill presented to him for approval.

Snc. 3. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall inform the President of the United States of the adoption of this concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTING DAY FOR THE CONVENING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH CONGRESS

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a joint resolution (H. J. Res. 85), and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 85
Resolved, That a committee of two Members be appointed by the House to join a similar committee appointed by the Senate, to wait upon the President of the United States and inform him that the two Houses have completed their business of the session and are ready to adjourn, unless the President has some other communication to make to them.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 395, the Chair appoints the following Members of the House to the committee to notify the President, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on November 17, 1999, on rollcall votes 596 and 597, I am recorded as not voting. I am happy to announce that I was present at the birth of my first grandchild, Nicholas William Shanning. Had I been present for votes, I would have voted “aye” on rollcall 596 and “no” on rollcall vote 597.

GRANTING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE PRIVILEGE TO EXTEND AND REVISE REMARKS IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD UNTIL LAST EDITION IS PUBLISHED

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker’s table the Senate bill (S. 383), to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Chippewa-Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

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

There was no objection.

CHIEPEWA CREE TRIBE OF THE ROCKY BOY’S RESERVATION INDIAN RESERVED WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT AND WATER SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1999

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker’s table the Senate bill (S. 383), to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Chippewa-Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

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

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, if the gentleman would take a moment to explain the bill.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield to the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, last month the House passed H.R. 795, the Rocky Boy’s Water Rights Settlement Act. Today we have before us S. 383, a companion bill to H.R. 795. The only difference between these bills is a small change regarding the treatment of tribal water rights off reservation. This change has been agreed upon by all parties involved in the legislation. The Rocky Boy’s Water Rights Settlement Act process has been important for a number of reasons. I congratulate the gentleman from Montana (Mr. Hill). In the State of Montana, the tribe has spent a good deal of time working on the issues in a constructive fashion, taking steps to minimize the impact on other affected water users.

Furthermore, there has been minimal emphasis on some of the outmoded basis that calculate in Federal reserve Indian water right claims. This process has allowed the parties to look to newer, more flexible negotiations that find the solutions which provide tribes with real opportunities without making demands that may destroy the economic livelihood of existing water users.

In addition, this process has brought new solutions, introduced private sector expertise into the tribe’s efforts to utilize the water supplies once the settlement is authorized.