

NOT VOTING—35

Archer	Heger	Rangel
Baird	Houghton	Shaw
Barton	Hunter	Smith (WA)
Collins	Jenkins	Stark
Conyers	Johnson (CT)	Thomas
Crane	Johnson, Sam	Vento
Doyle	Jones (OH)	Watkins
Engel	McCreary	Weldon (FL)
English	McIntosh	Wise
Ewing	Nussle	Wolf
Gilman	Pitts	Young (AK)
Goodling	Porter	

□ 1026

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAYES). Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCNULTY 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.

APPROPRIATIONS SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

(Mr. YOUNG of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to make an announcement relative to the appropriations schedule for the day.

Mr. Speaker, at the direction of the leadership, the House and Senate appropriators and appropriations staff worked all through the night and have prepared the conference report on the legislative branch appropriations bill as well as the Treasury-Postal appropriations bill. That was filed this morning at approximately 7 a.m.

Then, after the appropriators worked all night, the Committee on Rules worked for a good portion of the night and submitted a rule. We will take that conference report up sometime today, probably after we complete the consideration of our last appropriations bill for the District of Columbia.

But the announcement I wanted to make is that the copies of the bill will be on the House Committee on Rules Web site and should be there now and also on the House Clerk's Office Web site so that Members will have an opportunity to look at the entire conference report.

In addition, a summary on printed hard copy will be available in the Appropriations office so Members will have ample opportunity to look at the conference report prior to the time they are called on to vote.

□ 1030

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

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my distinguished friend for yielding to me, and I have just a couple of questions. The D.C. appropriations bill, will that be brought to the floor today? Is that the gentleman's understanding? The gentleman alluded to it in his remarks.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. It is my understanding that the D.C. bill will be completed today. We are very close to completion on that bill.

Mr. BONIOR. Does the gentleman expect that bill to be brought to the floor today, the D.C. appropriation bill?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Yes.

Mr. BONIOR. All right. I thank the gentleman.

The second thing is on the Treasury Postal bill, obviously, there is a lot of concern about the bill since Members have not seen it, some Members did not participate or were not allowed to participate in the conference, as I understand it, and the question I have is, the two Cuban amendments that passed with overwhelming votes in this Chamber, are they in the bill or were they stripped from the bill?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. They are not in the conference report.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. I made the announcement so Members will have opportunity to review the entire report and to find areas they like and areas they do not like, and then we will pass the conference report.

QUESTIONS REGARDING APPROPRIATIONS SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I just would like to make a few observations about the announcement just made by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG). I do not know how to describe the process we are going through, except that it looks to me like it was designed by Johnny Fumblefingers. We have no idea, Members have no idea of what is in this conference report. We are being—could I have some order or has all respect gone from that side of the aisle? Too many sore losers from the baseball game last night, I guess.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAYES). Does the gentleman wish to be recognized to gloat for 2 minutes?

Mr. OBEY. The point I would like to make, Mr. Speaker, is simply this, we are being told that we are going to be voting on a legislative appropriations bill today, and now we are being told that when we do that that bill will by reference also pass another appropriation bill, the Treasury Postal bill, that conference report is quaint, because

the Senate has not yet even completed action on the bill which is being conferenced, and in that bill, we have a variety of interesting provisions.

So far as we know, there is, for instance, apparently a road in that bill that GSA is being asked to construct in New Mexico, despite the fact GSA has never constructed a road in the history of the operation. The funds in the bill we are told are inadequate to allow the IRS to meet its modernization requirements, all of the matters relating to Cuba and the Cuban embargo, if you come from a farm district and are interested in that, I do not see the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NETHERCUTT) anywhere, but my understanding is that that has been stripped out of the bill.

So I would suggest that this is a most strange way to proceed. I do not understand why it is necessary to proceed to a conference report on a bill which has not yet even been considered by the other body, that is an incredibly irregular procedure, and I think it adds further to the image of this House as not knowing from one day to the next what it is doing.

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

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. I thank my friend for yielding to me, and when I made this announcement, I did not intend to start the debate on the conference report. I merely wanted to allow the Members to know where they could see copies of this bill, so that when we get to that debate, no one would have the excuse of, well, I did not have a chance to see the bill; that was the only purpose, not to start the debate now, but to tell Members where they can see copies of this conference report so they can vote intelligently.

Mr. OBEY. I would simply say to the gentleman, I am not criticizing his statement, I am criticizing his actions.

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

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me.

I would say to the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) for whom I have, as he knows, great respect and affection, and I share that as well for the ranking member.

I want to tell him, with all due respect, I am the ranking member of the Treasury Postal bill, and I am going to have to go to the Web site because I have not seen the conference report. There was no conference. I would tell my friends, there was no conference on the Treasury Postal bill, whatever is in the Treasury Postal bill, we are learning secondhand.

This is not the way my colleagues ought to run this House and respect one another as Members. This is a