

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on October 27, 2000 the House voted on H.J. Res. 117, "Further Continuing Appropriations for FY 2001", S. 2943, the "International Malaria Control Act", H.R. 2498, the "Cardiac Arrest Survival Act", H. Res. 655, "Providing for the consideration of H.R. 1550 and the Senate Amendment", S. 2712, the "Reports Consolidation Act of 2000", H.R. 5309, "Designating Ronald Reagan Post Office," said S. 3194, "Designating Bob Walker Post Office." Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H.J. Res. 117, (rollcall vote No. 563), "aye" on S. 2943, (rollcall vote No. 564), "aye" on H.R. 2498, (rollcall vote No. 565), "aye" on H.R. 5309, (rollcall vote No. 568), and "aye" on S. 3194, (rollcall vote No. 569).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I was unavoidably detained and I was not able to vote on rollcall votes Nos. 564 to 569. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 564, "yes"; rollcall No. 564, "yes"; rollcall No. 564, "yes"; rollcall No. 565, "yes"; rollcall No. 566, "yes"; rollcall No. 567, "yes"; rollcall No. 568, "yes"; rollcall No. 569, "yes".

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask for this time for the purpose of advising Members of the schedule. Members should be advised that we have had our last vote for the day. The House will reconvene tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. for the purpose of passing a 1-day CR. It is our expectation that we will be able to move the Members through that process and complete our day's business very soon after we convene at 9 a.m. That should then be the last vote of the day tomorrow morning.

On Sunday, we should reconvene the House at 6 o'clock p.m. for the purpose of passing a 1-day CR. We would expect to complete that work.

In the event that it is necessary to do so on Monday morning, we would reconvene the House at 10 a.m. for the purpose of passing a 1-day CR. Should it continue to be necessary to do so, we would reconvene the House at 6 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday for the purpose of passing a 1-day CR.

Members should be advised, of course, throughout all of this time frame the appropriators will continue to work on the last remaining appropriations bill, the Labor, Health and Human Services bill. Our appropriators will work on that over the weekend and, if necessary, will continue their work into the week.

On Monday, the House, of course, awaits the successful completion of that work and negotiation between the House the other body and the White

House. And at whatever time that work is completed, with proper notice, we will advise our Members and reconvene the House to complete the work on that final bill of the year.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST).

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman stood up, of course, without much notice and so not everyone was on the floor and was able to hear. Could the gentleman repeat the schedule day by day just so everyone is clear? And then I do have a question or two.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I do appreciate the gentleman asking; and I know there are a great many people, particularly on the gentleman's side of the aisle, who are concerned about being home for their campaign activities back home. If we would have a brave heart, we could get through all of this.

To reiterate, we believe this to be the last vote of the day. We will reconvene in the morning at 9 a.m. to vote a 1-day CR. We would expect that to be a completion of our day's work. We would then reconvene Sunday at 6 p.m. for the purpose of a 1-day CR. Again, we would expect that to be the completion of our work. On Monday, we would reconvene at 10 a.m. for a 1-day CR. And then, if necessary, do the same at 6 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday.

I again would remind all the Members that the appropriators are working bicamerally in negotiations with the White House on the attempt to complete the last remaining bill of the year, the Labor, Health and Human Services spending bill. That work will continue throughout the weekend; and with appropriate notice of time, when that work is completed and we are prepared to bring that bill to the floor, Members will be notified. Of course, the availability of that work for the completion of the year's work by the body would be preemptive of any announcement that I make between now and Tuesday evening.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would continue to yield, may I ask the gentleman, if I understood him correctly, he was saying that it was his opinion that there would only be one vote tomorrow when the House convenes at 9 a.m. Is the gentleman aware that there are possibilities of additional procedural votes that could occur tomorrow?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, again reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman. I know of no work that is scheduled for the House. And I would again advise our Members that in terms of work that is scheduled, this is the schedule we have to advise. I understand the Members from the other body have noticed a couple of matters and we will, of course, pay dutiful attention to them on the floor.

Mr. FROST. If I could continue, and then I believe the gentleman from

Michigan (Mr. BONIOR), the Democratic whip, has a question. Is the gentleman from Texas aware that it is possible to bring up motions to instruct conferees tomorrow? That those would be in order?

Mr. ARMEY. Certainly, I am aware of that; but we have not received any official notices of that possibility. We do recognize that should that appropriate notice be given and that event present itself, that we will deal with that within the context of the rules of the House.

Mr. FROST. I believe that the Democratic whip has some information on that specific subject.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR).

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding me this time. I want to inform the distinguished majority leader that we have, in fact, filed at this point two motions to instruct tomorrow, one on LIHEAP and the other on an educational issue. And so we do expect that there will be business tomorrow, and business on Sunday as well, on issues that we think are very important to get done before we adjourn this Congress.

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentleman for that notification.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would continue to yield, could I ask an additional question to my distinguished colleague from Texas?

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman from Texas seeks time for an additional question, I am happy to yield.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, does the majority have any plans to schedule any veto overrides for consideration of the House? Does the majority have any plans to schedule any veto override votes within the next few days?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, again reclaiming my time, I appreciate the inquiry. I do not believe that there are any vetoes that are there; and there are no, therefore, override votes that would be pending.

Mr. FROST. Should any vetoes occur within the next few days, would the majority schedule a veto override vote?

Mr. ARMEY. I do not anticipate that event. If that event presents itself, we will deal with it at that time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, would the gentleman yield?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I believe the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) was on his feet, and I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding. I suspect maybe the gentleman might explain to our colleagues why it is that we have to do a 1-day CR today, and another 1-day CR Saturday, and another 1-day CR Sunday, and another 1-day CR Monday. And I am happy to hear the response from the other side, because as the majority

leader has said, the appropriators will be meeting through the weekend, as we have been for nearly a month, on this last remaining bill with the White House, and we are going around in circles. If they cannot have it their way, they do not want it any way.

But I have a friendly question for both sides. Since the majority leader and the House and I confirm we will be working through the weekend, is it okay, based on some of the debate that we have heard so far in the last couple of weeks, is it okay if we work in the dark of night? Because it is going to take more than the daylight hours to get this done. And if it does, my Democrat colleagues should not criticize us next week for having made decisions in the dark of night.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I would like to thank the gentleman from Florida for his genteel observations. Let me just say, Mr. Speaker, the President has agreed to 1-day CRs until we complete this work.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask our body to just take a moment and appreciate the appropriators for their continuous work in negotiation. They are, in fact, continuing to work.

Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate continuing with this so that I could yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY).

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Texas, the majority leader, for yielding me this time. I would just note that I welcome the comments of the gentleman from Florida, although I would say they are at some variance with the fact that we were just told at about 11:30 by one of the key conferees that he did not intend to meet either Saturday or Sunday. I am hoping that that comment was made in a momentary expression of frustration.

But, nonetheless, I would like for purposes of clarification to follow up on a question asked by, I think, the gentleman from Texas. We are trying in the conference, we are trying to determine what is going to happen with the Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary bill and what is going to happen with the tax bill, because that impacts the final negotiations on the Labor-HHS bill.

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I would like to ask the distinguished majority leader if he could explain to us his understanding of whether and when the Senate is intending to send either of those bills to the White House. Because there are interesting implications for the Labor-HHS bill if the tax bill, for instance, does not go to the White House.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), and there are many aspects to his observations.

On the question of the difficulty we have in scheduling the continuing ne-

gotiations, I know it was frustrating for a lot of our members on the Committee on Appropriations in both bodies who were here working last night to see that both the President and his chief of staff, his principle negotiator, were there at the World Series.

Incidentally, Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the Yankees for their victory last night. Certainly that made it difficult to work last night.

I understand that the President is traveling to California. Whether or not his chief of staff and chief negotiator goes with him to California or not, I do not know. But we will continue to encourage everybody to be at the table.

In the meantime, the Senate, the other body, Mr. Speaker, continues to have its frustrations within the context of their rules. The minority is, as my colleagues know, are quite empowered to prevent things from happening in both of the bills that the gentleman referred to, are being held up in the other body by the minority in their effort to do whatever it is they are doing. They are frustrated in their inability to get those two bills to the floor for a vote. We will obviously encourage them to proceed as much as possible.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield further, recognizing that we have no idea of what will happen to those other bills, I would say we need to have some clarification of that before we know what matters have to be included in the Labor-HHS bill, especially with respect to school construction.

The other thing I would simply say in response to the comments of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY) about Mr. Lew. Mr. Lew has been in this city. He has been in this building, prepared to negotiate virtually every day since Labor Day. He has been working 12, 14, 16 hours a day.

My colleagues can laugh. My colleagues on the other side can laugh if they want, but he has been here a lot more than any of them have.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, let me just respond to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY). Again, let me remind him, insofar as it is possible, Mr. Speaker, I do control the time. I want to acknowledge the point just made by the gentleman from Wisconsin. We are all working hard. We do want to appreciate one another. In that regard, even I myself was just so pleased that I managed to get back to my office at least to watch the last inning of last night's game. So I know how important that is to Mr. Lew.

I just want to say we do want to encourage everybody. My purpose here is that, understand this is important work we are talking about. The differences between ourselves on education are important business that is before the American people. They are going to take time because our differences are so heartfelt. I will not

take the time to outline those right now.

What I am saying is let us take a moment to appreciate one another. We are committed to this hard work. We are as committed to our purposes as the White House and the minority are to theirs. This will take some time. So I am sure we will all enjoy each other as we continue to encourage the appropriators.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I really think for the purpose to which I asked for this time, I have really completed what I need to do. I am happy to yield back my time.

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may be allowed to proceed.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw the request.

ARTHUR "PAPPY" KENNEDY POST OFFICE BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4399, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4399, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read:

"A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 440 South Orange Blossom Trail in Orlando, Florida, as the 'Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy Post Office'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EDDIE MAE STEWARD POST OFFICE BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 4400, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4400, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: