

where she worked for WRNL radio and was a reporter for the Richmond Times-Dispatch newspaper.

Marybelle and Gedney married on April 17, 1942, in Pensacola, Florida. This was one of the places where he was stationed during World War II, prior to service in North Africa and the Pacific. They were to have four children—Belle Boone Howe, Gedney Main Howe III, Robert Gasque Howe, and Donald Higgins Howe—all of whom became attorneys. After the war, the Howes made their home in Charleston where Marybelle was a homemaker and Gedney was the Circuit Solicitor. She was active in the P.T.A. and the Second Presbyterian Church where she served as head of the Junior Department for many years. She was also active in the Democratic Party and was honored for her lifetime of service, shortly before her death.

In the 1950's Marybelle was elected president of Church Women United. This bi-racial group sparked her interest in a ministry for migrant laborers and their children on the Sea Islands south of Charleston. Marybelle and the Rev. Willis T. Goodwin opened Camp Care on John's Island in the late 1950's to minister to the children of migrant workers. This activity later blossomed into Rural Mission, Inc. which has a myriad of programs today to assist the residents of the Sea Islands. Rural Mission honored Marybelle Howe just before her death with a day long celebration, placing her name first on its Honor Roll.

Marybelle Howe's pioneering efforts on behalf of migrant laborers helped to establish the South Carolina Commission for Farm Workers which later served as a model for federal assistance programs. It was only natural that she be named the founding chairman of the Charleston County Commission on Economic Opportunity. Her work to help African-Americans during President Johnson's Great Society proved to be controversial among conservative Charlestonians and she suffered social ostracism for her commitment to the poor. This did not cause her commitment to waiver; she continued to work on behalf of the poor for the rest of her life.

She also labored long and hard on behalf of the Charleston County Library, serving as a dedicated board member for 25 years, several as chairman of its board of trustees. The Library honored her after her death by re-dedicating the South Carolina room in her honor. She also served on the Board of Women Visitors of the University of South Carolina from 1962-1973 and again from 1981 until her death. The University of South Carolina Board of Trustees presented a Resolution to her family after her death, expressing its gratitude for her years of service to her church, her community and to the University of South Carolina.

Marybelle Howe, known for her zest for worthy causes, was a truly remarkable woman. Journalism was her chosen profession, and she was a writer all of her life. In addition to corresponding with family members weekly, she wrote a new short story as a gift for her children and friends each Christmas. She also enjoyed playing the piano, particularly ragtime pieces.

She was a wonderful wife, providing strength and balance in support of her husband's legal career. She was a wonderful mother, fair in her dealings with her children, inspiring them with her compassion for others and her non-judgmental nature. Marybelle's warmth and wit made others gravitate to her, and there was no doubt that she had a genuine love for people. She saw

everyone as a "basically nice person" and knew the secret of inspiring others to bring out the best in themselves.

REV. LAYFORD R. JOHNSON

Rev. Layford R. Johnson, the son of the late Henry and Alice Johnson, was born in the Hickory Hill section of Lower Richland County, SC, 82 years ago. Rev. Johnson attended the Richland County Public Schools. He is a lifelong resident of Eastover, SC.

Rev. Johnson's parents, Henry and Alice Johnson were farmers. He said that some of the primary values they taught him, that he has taught to his children are honesty, and hard work.

Rev. Johnson worked in his earlier years on the WPX, as well as an employee of the CC Camp for two years, and for Holley Hill Lumber Company. Later he became a self employed farmer full time.

Rev. Johnson and Mrs. Evelina Hinton-Johnson are the parents of seven children. In addition they are the grandparents to fourteen (14) grandchildren, four great grandchildren, two daughters-in-law, two sons-in-law, two elderly aunts and a brother.

Rev. Johnson has always been and remains active in the work of the Lord. He is Associate Pastor at St. Phillip A.M.E. Church. He is also a Class Leader and Steward Emeritus, after twenty years of service as a Steward of the church.

Rev. Johnson is a Meals-On-Wheels Volunteer. He has served in this capacity for the past eighteen (18) years. Rev. Johnson is a dedicated and loyal volunteer. In addition, Rev. Johnson is very active in the political arena. He always volunteers his time on election day providing transportation to the polls.

Currently, Rev. Johnson, 80 years old is active in his volunteer work and pastoring. In addition, he still farms his garden. He is truly, an inspiration to his family and friends. Rev. Johnson believes and lives by the Golden Rule, "Do unto others, as you would have others do unto you."

Mr. SANFORD. Madam Speaker, I join my South Carolina colleagues to honor a fellow Charlestonian—Marybelle H. Howe. I think what Mrs. Howe represents is something we should all aim for and that is being an active part of our community.

Mrs. Howe was a wife and mother of four children, but that did not stop her from participating in her church and her community. In the 1950's, Mrs. Howe was elected President of Church Women United, which brought her in touch with the migrant labor communities in the Sea Islands, just south of Charleston. In the late 1950's, Mrs. Howe and the Rev. Willis T. Goodwin opened Camp Care on Johns Island to minister to the children of migrant workers. This activity later blossomed into Rural Mission, Inc., which provides a wide variety assistance programs to the residents of the Sea Islands. Just before her death in 1987, Mrs. Howe was honored by Rural Missions, Inc. and her name was placed first on their Honor Roll.

Mrs. Howe's efforts with the poor raised the profile of the issue across the state. Her work with migrant laborers helped to establish the South Carolina Commission for Farm Workers. She was also founding chairman of the Charleston County Commission on Economic Opportunity.

Mrs. Howe was also a dedicated board member of the Charleston County Library,

serving 25 years, several as chairman of its board of trustees. Today, there is a Marybelle Howe Room at the library in her honor.

She also served on the Board of Women Visitors of the University of South Carolina from 1962-73 and again from 1981-86. After her death, the University of South Carolina presented a resolution to her family expressing its gratitude for her years of service to her church, her community and to the University of South Carolina.

I hope we can all, in some way, follow Mrs. Howe's example. Passage of this bill will not only honor this fine lady, but will also be a reminder of community spirit for all of us in Charleston. I am proud to cosponsor this legislation and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this woman's contributions.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3018, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 49 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1234

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska) at 12 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE HONORABLE BOB BARR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Jonathan Blythe, Chief of Staff of the Honorable Bob Barr, Member of Congress:

U.S. CONGRESS,

Washington, DC, February 28, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Office of the Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VII of the Rules

of the House of Representatives, that I have been served a subpoena for testimony issued by the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House of Representatives.

With warm regards, I am very truly yours,

JONATHAN BLYTH,
Chief of Staff,
Office of Congressman Bob Barr.

GOVERNMENT WASTE CORRECTIONS ACT OF 1999

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 426 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 426

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1827) to improve the economy and efficiency of Government operations by requiring the use of recovery audits by Federal agencies. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform. In lieu of the amendment recommended by the Committee on Government Reform now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. Points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with clause 4 of rule XXI are waived. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except

one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

During the consideration of this resolution, all time is yielded for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 426 is an open rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 1827, the Government Waste Corrections Act. This rule provides 1 hour of general debate, evenly divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Government Reform.

The rule provides that, in lieu of the amendment recommended by the Committee on Government Reform and printed in the bill, that the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying the resolution shall be considered as the original text for the purpose of amendment.

The rule waives clause 4 of rule XXI against provisions included in the amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be open for amendment at any point. The rule accords Members who have preprinted their amendments in the RECORD prior to their consideration priority in recognition to offer their amendment, if otherwise consistent with House rules.

The rule allows the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill, and to reduce voting time to 5 minutes on a postponed question, if the vote follows a 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, when the Republican party became the majority party in 1995, Congress began enacting a series of commonsense reforms. These reforms have changed the way the Federal government operates and have saved billions of taxpayer dollars.

One of the first things Congress did was apply all laws that it passes to itself. Previously, Congress would pass burdensome regulations on the private sector, but exclude itself from compliance to these laws. In 1995, Congress passed the Paperwork Reduction Act to identify and reduce burdensome Federal paperwork requirements on the private sector, especially small businesses.

Continuing toward a goal of creating a 21st century government, in 1996 Congress passed the Federal Acquisition Reform Act to reduce bureaucratic requirements within the Federal procurement system.

We have all heard examples of inflated prices, like the 187 screw sets purchased by the government for \$75.60 each. More often than not, such fleecing of taxpayer dollars is due to the cumbersome Federal procurement system, not fraud. The Federal Acquisition Reform Act has streamlined the process of doing business with the Federal government by significantly reducing such waste.

In 1997, Congress passed the Travel and Transportation Reform Act, legislation to remedy poor management of the Federal government's massive travel expenditures. This bill is now law, and has led to a concerted effort by Federal managers to improve the Federal travel efficiency and cost effectiveness. The Congressional Budget Office estimates savings of \$80 million per year.

With the passage last year of the Presidential and Executive Office Financial Accountability Act, Congress created a chief financial officer for the White House. This nonpartisan CFO position in the Executive Office of the President will facilitate prevention and early detection of waste, fraud and abuse. Accordingly, the bill promotes efficiency and cost reductions within the White House.

Today Congress takes another step toward increasing efficiency and saving taxpayer dollars with consideration of the Government Waste Corrections Act.

In private industry, companies routinely audit themselves to determine if they have overpaid vendors and suppliers. Overpayments are a fact of life for businesses, government entities, and even our own households. Overpayments become more likely with larger volumes of payments.

Overpayments occur for a variety of reasons, including duplicate payments, pricing errors, and missed discounts or rebates. On average, private industry recovers \$1 million for each \$1 billion that is audited. Overpayments at the Federal level are an especially serious problem when considering the size and complexity of Federal operations, as well as the widespread financial management weaknesses of the Federal government.

Recovery auditing and activity already occurs in limited areas of the Federal government. Recovery audits of the Department of Defense alone have identified errors averaging .4 percent of Federal payments audited, or \$4 million out of every \$1 billion. Recovery efforts throughout the entire Federal Government could save billions of dollars more.

With this in mind, the Government Waste Corrections Act requires Federal agencies to perform audits if their direct purchases for goods and services total \$500 million or more per fiscal year. Agencies that must undertake recovery auditing would also be required