

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Thursday, June 15, 2000

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: It is You, O God, who brought people out of darkness of repression and revolution into Your own wonderful light of freedom.

As You have blessed this Nation in its infancy, bless it now in its maturity.

Banish the darkness of doubt and confusion. Free us of fear and selfishness. Bring us into Your own wonderful light where we can be our very best selves, caring about others. Help us to see the unrest from our own soul as a Nation that we may be fit instruments of peace to others.

It is You, O God, who brought people out of darkness of slavery and immigration into Your own wonderful light of possibility.

As You have blessed this Nation in its early trials, bless it now in its present difficulties.

End the night of cynicism and violence. Bring us into Your own wonderful light where we can meet others and accept our differences. Help us to recognize the poverty of our own spirits that we may be real hope to others.

Once we were "not a people" but now we are God's people. Keep us bonded in this truth, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. 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. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH) come

forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HAYWORTH 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The Chair will entertain one-minute at the end of legislative business.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4635, DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, by the direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 525 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 525

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. 4635) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. 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 Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI are waived except as follows: beginning with "except that" on page 63, line 4, through "drinking water contaminants" on line 8; page 67, lines 4 through 14. Where points of order are waived against part of a paragraph, points of order against a provision in another part of such paragraph may be made only against such provision and not against the entire paragraph. 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. Amend-

ments 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. During consideration of the bill, points of order against amendments for failure to comply with clause 2(e) of rule XXI are waived. 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. 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 Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), the very distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Rules; pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. All time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 525 is an open rule that provides for the consideration of the fiscal year 2001 appropriations bill for the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development and independent agencies.

The rule provides for 1 hour of general debate to be equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Under this open rule, the bill will be considered for amendment by paragraph, and Members will offer their amendments under the 5-minute rule. Priority recognition will be afforded to those Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI regarding unauthorized or legislative provisions of the bill, except as specified in the rule.

The rule also waives points of order against amendments for failure to comply with clause 2(e) of rule XXI since there is an emergency designation in the bill.

In an effort to provide for orderly and expedited consideration of the bill, the

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.