June 20, 2000

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAUSIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 4201.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHAW). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote was ordered or nays are ordered, on which the vote is ordered to be taken under clause 6 of rule XX, for such record votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

DEBT REDUCTION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2000

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4601) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 213(c)(2) of the current resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2001 to reduce the public debt and to decrease the statutory limit on the public debt, as amended.

The Clerk reads as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Debt Reduction Reconciliation Act of 2000".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) fiscal discipline, resulting from the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, and strong economic growth have ended decades of deficit spending and have produced budget surpluses without using the social security surplus;

(2) fiscal pressures will mount in the future as the aging of the population increases budget obligations;

(3) until Congress and the President agree to legislation that strengthens social security, the social security surplus should be used to reduce the debt held by the public;

(4) strengthening the Government's fiscal position through public debt reduction increases national savings, promotes economic growth, reduces interest costs, and is a constructive way to prepare for the Government's future budget obligations.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to—

(1) reduce the debt held by the public with the goal of eliminating this debt by 2021, and

(2) decrease the statutory limit on the public debt.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC DEBT REDUCTION PAYMENT ACCOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

§ 3114. Public debt reduction payment account

(2) the congressional budget office estimates an on-budget surplus for fiscal year 2000 in the report submitted pursuant to section 253(e)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 in excess of the amount of the surplus set forth for that fiscal year in section 101(4) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2001 (House Concurrent Resolution 290, 106th Congress), then there is hereby appropriated into the account on the later of the date of enactment of this Act or the date upon which the Congressional Budget Office submits such report, or out of any money in the Treasury or otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, an amount equal to that excess. The funds appropriated to this account shall remain available until expended.

(3) the Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall ensure that such actions may be necessary to promptly carry out this section in accordance with sound debt management policies.

(4) Reducing the debt pursuant to this section shall not interfere with the debt management policies or goals of the Secretary of the Treasury.

(5) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter heading of section 3114 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to '3114. Public debt reduction payment account.'