

On September 27, 1999, Chairman WALSH wrote me a letter stating that, "the establishment of an outpatient clinic is the decision of the local VISN Director based on resources and need. We will make inquiries to the VA and the Director of VISN regarding the situation in your district." In addition, to follow-up on that pledge the Subcommittee conference report to H.R. 2684 included the following provision: "the conferees direct the VA to submit a report on access to medical care and community-based outpatient clinics in Georgia 7th Congressional District 30 days after the enactment of this bill." President Bill Clinton signed this legislation on October 20, 1999.

On January 14, 2000, I met with R.A. Perreault, Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Georgia, who pledged his support to establish an Outpatient Clinic in the Seventh Congressional District in Fiscal Year 2000. In addition, on January 27, 2000, the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies Subcommittees sent to my congressional office a document entitled "Access to Care in Georgia 7th Congressional District" from the Department of Veterans Affairs. This evaluation stated:

[W]ithin the past year, there has been significant amount of interest from Congressman Barr on the implementation of a Community Based Outpatient Clinic in the 7th Congressional District of Georgia . . . the VISN 7 Primary Care Service Line recently completed an evaluation of potential sites for future CBOCs using specific criteria . . . a proposed CBOC in Cobb County has been identified as a high priority and is noted in the Strategic Plan.

As you are aware, the VA has a goal of improving access to care and timeliness of service. The VISN 7 has set aside funds to be used to activate additional CBOCs in fiscal years 2000 and 2001. The proposed Cobb County CBOC is planned for a fiscal year 2000 activation. The VA notes in its report, future decisions regarding the implementation of new initiatives will continue to be based in part on the budget forecast. The report states, "the opening of additional CBOCs remains subject to the availability of funds and other significant factors."

The Atlanta office of the Department of Veterans Affairs has already approved the facility and I am pleased to announce to Chairman WALSH, and the Members of the House of Representatives, that in the next several weeks an outpatient clinic will open in the Seventh Congressional District in Georgia.

Given the large number of veterans in the western and northern parts of the 7th District, I pledge to continue working with the Chairman, and with the Department, to build additional outpatient clinics in the 7th District; including near the I-20 corridor to the west of Atlanta, and northwest of Atlanta along the I-75 corridor.

These clinics are a win-win; they save money, and they are a tremendous benefit to our veterans.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FOSSELLA) having assumed the chair,

Mr. PEASE, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration 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, had come to no resolution thereon.

LIMITATION ON AMENDMENTS  
DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 4635, DEPARTMENT  
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND  
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,  
AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during further consideration of H.R. 4635 in the Committee of the Whole, pursuant to House Resolution 525, no further amendment to the bill shall be in order except:

(1) Pro forma amendments offered by the chairman or ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees for the purpose of debate;

(2) The following additional amendments, which shall be debatable for 10 minutes:

Ms. KAPTUR regarding VA Mental Illness Research;

Mr. PASCRELL regarding VA Right to Know Act;

Mr. SAXTON regarding EPA Estuary Funding;

Mr. ROEMER regarding Space Station; and

The amendments printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII and numbered 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 17, 33, 41 and 43;

(3) The following additional amendments, which shall be debatable for 20 minutes:

Mr. EDWARDS regarding VA Health and Research; and

The amendments printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII and numbered 23, 34, and 35; and

(4) The following additional amendments, which shall be debatable for 30 minutes:

Mr. OBEY regarding National Science Foundation;

Mr. COLLINS regarding Clean Air;

Mr. BOYD regarding FEMA;

Mr. OLVER regarding the Kyoto Protocol; and

The amendments printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII and numbered 3, 4, 24, 25, and 39.

Each additional amendment may be offered only by the Member designated

in this request, or a designee, or the Member who caused it to be printed, or a designee, and shall be considered as read. Each additional amendment shall be debatable for the time specified equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; shall not be subject to amendment; and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan agreement was joined with the proviso that we complete our work on the bill by 9:00 p.m. tomorrow evening.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2000

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

□ 2345

CONGRATULATING THE LOS ANGELES  
LAKERS ON THEIR VICTORY

(Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to congratulate the Los Angeles Lakers for a job well done last night.

As we can see on the sports page of the L.A. Times, it says "Great Lakers." I agree. I am one of the Members who represent Los Angeles, and we were all proud when they brought home the victory last night.

Mr. Speaker, before this playoff season started, my dear friend, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), got on the floor and said that the Indiana Pacers would win, that the L.A. Lakers would not get the championship.

I only want to say to him that I told him that night that I would give him a tissue, but instead I am going to give him this ball. Hopefully, the Pacers will bounce back next year. That is, if they are not playing the Lakers.

Go Lakers.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.