

States Congress, I was going to take them in the front door of the White House to meet the President of the United States, not the back door, but the front door.

And so, the time came when I was elected; and it just so happened that Ronald Reagan was the President of the United States and a man whom I think was one of the greatest Presidents we ever had. The day came when I was going to take my mom and dad over to the White House and go in the front door to meet the President. And unbeknownst to me, Ronald Reagan's staff, because the President had asked them to, had called and said, we want to know something about Dan Burton, his background and everything before he comes over so we can talk to his parents.

And when we went in the Oval Office to meet the President of the United States, this little waitress and this man who worked in a foundry all his life getting up at 5:30 in the morning, he walked in and he shook their hands and he started telling them what a great guy I was, and told them all the things he knew about me and what a great asset I was to the United States Congress. He did not need to do that, but it sure was great for me and it was great for my mom and dad.

And so, I thank President Reagan very much for making my mom and dad feel like they were two of the proudest people in the United States one day in my life.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I say to the President, our colleagues and all Americans join together in joining Ronald Reagan, our great President, a very happy 90th birthday.

FAMILY FARM EMERGENCY ENERGY ASSISTANCE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHOWS. Madam Speaker, the unusually cold winter and the dramatic increase in heating costs are hurting everybody in my State of Mississippi.

Clearly, we need to encourage more domestic production of oil and gas.

But in Mississippi, we need immediate action, we need help today, especially for our region's agriculture industry.

Some farmers and ranchers have seen their gas bills double and triple over the last year. And this is through no fault of their own.

Our own local economy depends on agricultural production, which is a major employer in many of our communities.

These days the industry has been devastated by the dramatic rise in the cost of gas. This may not be a natural disaster, like a tornado or a flood, but

this is a disaster just the same. This is an economic disaster that threatens the very existence of farms throughout our region.

Today I introduced a bill that will provide both immediate and long-term emergency assistance to our farmers and ranchers. My bill, the Family Farm Emergency Energy Assistance Act, will authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grants that would not have to be repaid to help local agricultural producers deal immediately with financial pressures caused by this crisis.

This bill would also make low-interest loans available to help deal with the energy crisis for the months ahead.

This important legislation needs to be enacted quickly. Our farmers need help, and they need it now.

I am calling upon our leaders in Congress to move this emergency assistance bill quickly to passage. I will not rest until the Family Farm Emergency Energy Assistance Act becomes law.

EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, yesterday was the eighth anniversary of the signing of the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Since 1993, that landmark legislation has allowed 35 million Americans to take time off from their jobs to be with children or ailing relatives without fear of losing their jobs. That is peace of mind for the American worker, and it is something that all workers need and deserve.

But even with FMLA in place, not all parents are taking the time off that is available to them. In fact, a recent study by the U.S. Department of Labor found that 88 percent of eligible employees who need time off do not take it because they cannot afford to go without a paycheck.

Scientific research shows that early bonding between parent and child is exceptionally critical to that child's future, to that child's success. Yet 83 percent of women who give birth are back to work within 6 months, and 70 percent of them say it is because they need the money.

Madam Speaker, America's children are paying the price for their parents' need to earn a living; and those parents are forced to choose between the needs of their children and putting food on the table. And that is not right.

The Family and Medical Leave Act has helped millions of families. But what we are finding out is there are millions more who are being left behind. It is time that the United States joined the more than 120 countries around the world that provide paid leave for new parents.

Let us face it, times are changing. If today's children are lucky enough to have two parents living with them, chances are that both parents are in the workforce and they work outside of the home. Parents are working hard. They are commuting long hours. And it is our children who are being left behind due to today's hectic lifestyles.

Studies find that parents are spending an average of 52 days a year less with their children than they did 30 years ago, 52 days a year less with their children.

We have to give parents the tools they need to bridge the gap between work and family, especially when there is a new baby in the home.

Along with Senator CHRIS DODD of Connecticut, I have, again with this Congress, introduced legislation to provide start-up funding for States that want to establish paid leave programs for new parents.

Already, my State of California offers new moms paid maternity leave through their State Disability Insurance. Women are eligible for up to 4 weeks of leave before delivery and 6 weeks after. That means a great deal for mothers. It means a lot to the newborns and the newly-adopted children. And, in the long-run, it will mean a great deal for the children as they grow up and become successful and are working on their futures.

But 10 weeks is not enough time. It is too short.

As a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I continue to work to make education our top priority. But I have come to realize that having the best schools and the best teachers in the world will not matter if kids are not ready to learn when they enter the classroom.

One thing that we need to do to help them be ready to learn is have them bond with their parents right after birth or right after adoption.

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As my cochairs and I on the Democratic Caucus Task Force for Children came to the conclusion last year that part of our children's agenda was paid for leave for new parents, we realize that it is more critical than ever to allow paid leave so that kids will get a good start.

Madam Speaker, parents want to be there for their children. Children are their number one priority. As a parent and a grandmother, I know how important those first weeks and months are to the parent and to the child. Let us show America's families, their parents and their children that the Family and Medical Leave Act was a good start but that these parents, these families, deserve more. Let us make paid leave for new parents a priority in this Congress.

Our children are 25 percent of our population, but they are 100 percent of our future.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H. J. Res. 7. Joint resolution recognizing the 90th birthday of Ronald Reagan.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105-83, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, announces the reappointment of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) as a member of the National Council on the Arts.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2761 of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, appoints the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) as Co-Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group during the One Hundred Seventh Congress.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-550, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the following Senators to serve as members of the James Madison Commemoration Commission—

the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER); and
the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-398, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on the Future of the United States Aerospace Industry—

William Schneider, Jr., of New York; and
Robert J. Stevens, of Maryland.

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY 107TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I hereby submit the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary for the 107th Congress for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. These rules were adopted by the Committee on January 31, 2001, in a meeting that was open to the public.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, RULES OF PROCEDURE, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS, ADOPTED JANUARY 31, 2001

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE—ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Wisconsin, *Chairman*, Henry J. Hyde, Illinois, George W. Gekas, Pennsylvania, Howard Coble, North

Carolina, Lamar S. Smith, Texas, Elton Gallegly, California, Bob Goodlatte, Virginia, Steve Chabot, Ohio, Bob Barr, Georgia, William L. Jenkins, Tennessee, Asa Hutchinson, Arkansas, Chris Cannon, Utah, Lindsey O. Graham, South Carolina, Spencer Bachus, Alabama, Joe Scarborough, Florida, John N. Hostettler, Indiana, Mark Green, Wisconsin, Ric Keller, Florida, Darrell E. Issa, California, Melissa A. Hart, Pennsylvania, and Jeff Flake, Arizona.

John Conyers, Jr., Michigan, Barney Frank, Massachusetts, Howard L. Berman, California, Rick Boucher, Virginia, Jerrold Nadler, New York, Robert C. Scott, Virginia, Melvin L. Watt, North Carolina, Zoe Lofgren, California, Sheila Jackson Lee, Texas, Maxine Waters, California, Martin T. Meehan, Massachusetts, William D. Delahunt, Massachusetts, Robert Wexler, Florida, Steven R. Rothman, New Jersey, Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin, and Anthony D. Weiner, New York.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule I

The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary and its subcommittees with the following specific additions thereto.

Rule II. Committee Meetings

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee on the Judiciary for the conduct of its business shall be on Tuesday of each week while the House is in session.

(b) Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman and a regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with when, in the judgment of the Chairman, there is no need therefor.

(c) At least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session) before each scheduled Committee or subcommittee meeting, each Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall be furnished a list of the bill(s) and subject(s) to be considered and/or acted upon at the meeting. Bills or subjects not listed shall be subject to a point of order, unless their consideration is agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Committee or subcommittee.

(d) The Chairman, with such notice to the ranking Minority Member as is practicable, may call and convene, as he considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purpose pursuant to that call of the Chairman.

(e) Committee and subcommittee meetings for the transaction of business, i.e., meetings other than those held for the purpose of taking testimony, shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(f) Every motion made to the Committee and entertained by the Chairman shall be reduced to writing upon demand of any Member, and a copy made available to each Member present.

(g) For purposes of taking any action at a meeting of the full Committee or any subcommittee thereof, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of not less than one-third of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee, except that a full majority of the Members of the Committee or sub-

committee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of reporting a measure or recommendation from the Committee or subcommittee, closing a meeting to the public, or authorizing the issuance of a subpoena.

(h) Transcripts of markups shall be recorded and may be published in the same manner as hearings before the committee and shall be included as part of the legislative report unless waived by the Chairman.

Rule III. Hearings

(a) The Committee Chairman or any subcommittee chairman shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted by it on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing. If the Chairman of the Committee, or subcommittee, with the concurrence of the ranking Minority Member, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman or subcommittee chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

(b) Committee and subcommittee hearings shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(c) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before the Committee or any subcommittee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of two Members.

(d) In the course of any hearing each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the interrogation of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

(e) The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the committee which are decided to be printed shall be published in verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. Individuals, including Members of Congress, whose comments are to be published as part of a committee document shall be given the opportunity to verify the accuracy of the transcription in advance of publication. Any requests by those Members, staff or witnesses to correct any errors other than errors in the transcription, or disputed errors in transcription, shall be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the change is requested will be footnoted. Prior to approval by the Chairman of hearings conducted jointly with another congressional committee, a memorandum of understanding shall be prepared which incorporates an agreement for the publication of the verbatim transcript.

Rule IV. Broadcasting

Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by television, radio and still photography except when the hearing or meeting is closed pursuant to the Committee Rules of Procedure.

Rule V. Standing Subcommittees

(a) The full Committee shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: antitrust law, tort liability, including medical malpractice and product liability, legal reform generally, and such other matters as determined by the Chairman.