

after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUNDRY MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sundry messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, October 24, 2001.

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

There was no objection.

FREEDOM TO MANAGE ACT OF 2001—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Government Reform and the Committee on Rules:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit for immediate consideration and prompt enactment the "Freedom to Manage Act of 2001." This legislative proposal would establish a procedure under which the Congress can act quickly and decisively to remove those structural barriers to efficient management imposed by law and identified by my Administration.

This proposal is part of the "Freedom to Manage" initiative outlined in the "President's Management Agenda" issued in late August. The initiative includes additional legislative proposals, to be transmitted separately, that would give Federal agencies and managers the tools to more efficiently and effectively manage the Federal Government's programs by: (1) providing Federal managers with increased flexibility to manage personnel; (2) giving agencies the responsibility to fund the full Government share of the accruing cost of all retirement and retiree health care benefits for Federal employees; and (3) giving agencies greater flexibility in managing and disposing of property assets.

In transmitting the Freedom to Manage Act, I am asking the Congress to join with my Administration in making a commitment to reform the Federal Government by eliminating obstacles to its efficient operations. Specifically, the Freedom to Manage Act would establish a process for expedited congressional consideration of Presidential proposals to eliminate or reduce barriers to efficient Government operations through the repeal or amendment of laws that create obstacles to efficient management or the provision of new authority to agencies.

The Freedom to Manage Act would provide that if the President transmits to the Congress legislative proposals relating to the elimination or reduction of barriers to efficient Government operations, either through repeal or amendment of current law or the provision of new authority, special expedited congressional procedures would be used to consider these proposals. If a joint resolution is introduced in either House within 10 legislative days of the transmittal containing the President's legislative proposals, it would be held in committee for no more than 30 legislative days. It would then be brought to the floor of that House very quickly after committee action is completed for a vote under special procedures allowing for limited debate and not amendments. Finally, a bill passed in one House could then be brought directly to the floor of the other House for a vote on final passage.

As barriers to more efficient management are removed, the Nation will rightly expect a higher level of performance from its Federal Government. Giving our Federal managers "freedom to manage" will enable the Federal Government to improve its performance and accountability and better serve the public. I urge the Congress to give the Freedom to Manage Act 2001 prompt and favorable consideration so we can work together in the coming months to implement needed and overdue reforms.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 17, 2001.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-133)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d) provides

for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the emergency declared with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia is to continue in effect for 1 year beyond October 21, 2001.

The circumstances that led to the declaration on October 21, 1995, of a national emergency have not been resolved. The actions of significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States and to cause unparalleled violence, corruption, and harm in the United States and abroad. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to maintain economic pressures on significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia by blocking their property or interests in property that are in the United States or within the possession or control of United States persons and by depriving them of access to the United States market and financial system.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 16, 2001.

PERIODIC REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-134)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, October 16, 2001.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.