

make, but to pray for the President and the other leaders in Congress. Because I really do mean that. I do not think there is anything stronger than prayer.

We have seen what it has done for this country during George Washington's time and President Lincoln's time, and FDR and World War I. What has always brought this country through is prayer and asking that we just help each other. I can remember some times in my own life that we have had prayer and that prayer has been answered. I think if the leaders come together, I think it is the right thing to do.

I can remember when the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) talked to me about this suspension bill coming to the House and, like the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL) said, coming to the House floor and closing the doors and turning off the TV cameras, because some of us like to maybe perform for the TV and for the audience out there. But this ought to be from the heart. Because right now, we did not know at the time that the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY) was talking about this that we were going to be going through these tragic events we are going through right now. So I thank him for this, and I certainly support this suspension resolution.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4½ minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the chief deputy whip and a cosponsor of this resolution.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, when people tell me, as they often do, I am praying for you, I almost always say to them, it is the most important thing you could do. Just as the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) mentioned, prayer does matter; and those of us who come today to support this resolution will be joined by others when this resolution is passed, to come to the floor specifically on that day to pray.

The tragic events of September 11 affected all the people in our country, including Members of Congress. Prayer is one way to heal our Nation and to heal ourselves.

I stand today in support of the resolution which allows Members of both bodies to have the opportunity to come to this floor, as has been often repeated, while the cameras are off for a day of prayer and reconciliation. This resolution provides an opportunity, a gathering place, for elected officials who wish to seek God's blessings and guidance for our country. It does not force any Member of this body or the other body to participate in a day of reconciliation; it merely makes this place available for that purpose.

Our Nation has a strong background in faith and worship by government of-

officials. It is a background that other speakers, including the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), have already talked about. George Washington established a day of thanksgiving and prayer as the first President. Every President since President Kennedy has said a prayer just outside the doors of this Chamber before entering the House to give the State of the Union address. The House Chaplain opens every session of Congress with a morning prayer. Above the podium, Mr. Speaker, are engraved the words, "In God We Trust." During the Civil War, President Lincoln set aside several days of national mourning and prayer. In the 1950s and in the 1980s, Congress passed resolutions providing for national days of prayer; and later, those resolutions became public laws.

By praying together to a higher being in all different ways that any Member of either this House or the other body would want to do, we unify our Nation; we heal our wounds; and we do, as I tell people so often, the most important thing we could do.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments of those who have spoken, and I strongly urge the adoption of this resolution relative to national reconciliation.

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, it was before the events of September 11 and its aftermath that a diverse group of House Members—including, Democrats and Republicans, Members from different regions, different backgrounds, and widely, differing viewpoints—began discussing the idea of drafting a resolution that focuses this often-contentious body and the country at large on the higher purpose that unites us all as American citizens and as children of God.

Little did we know how profound the need for such a focus would soon be.

The resolution we consider tonight asks that we seek the blessings of Providence for forgiveness, reconciliation, unity, and charity for every American in order to fulfill our country's purpose in bringing hope to the defenseless and freedom to the oppressed.

Our country is, in fact, the hope and inspiration of countless millions of people held in oppressed circumstances throughout much of the world.

At times, we Americans differ bitterly over policies. We have our own struggles over justice and opportunity for all. For more than two centuries, we have fought to make the promise of our Constitution a reality for every citizen, regardless of race, religion, gender, or national origin.

Yet, through it all, no country in the world has made a greater contribution or greater sacrifice to advance the cause of freedom and human dignity.

Tonight, our Nation and the free world face one of the greatest tests in our history. Let us stand together, in reconciliation and unity, as the "champion of hope, vindicator of the defenseless, and the guardian of freedom," here in America and across the world.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HANSEN). Are there further requests for

time? If not the question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLITTLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 184, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PROPERTY PROTECTION PROGRAM FOR POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2924) to provide authority to the Federal Power Marketing Administrations to reduce vandalism and destruction of property, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2924

#### SECTION 1. PROPERTY PROTECTION PROGRAM FOR POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Administrators of the Western Area Power Administration, the Southwestern Power Administration, and the Southeastern Power Administration may each carry out programs to reduce vandalism, theft, and destruction of property that is under their jurisdiction.

(b) *PROVISION OF REWARDS.*—In carrying out a program under this section, each Administrator referred to in subsection (a) is authorized to provide rewards (including cash rewards) to individuals who provide information or evidence leading to the arrest and prosecution of individuals causing damage to, or loss of, Federal property under their jurisdiction. The amount of any one such reward paid to any individual may not exceed a value of \$1,000.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Power Marketing Administration's Western Area Power Administration, Southwestern Power Administration, and Southeastern Power Administration are responsible for maintaining and operating over 18,000 miles of high-voltage electrical transmission lines, providing an important contribution to the movement of electrical power across our country. They also have hundreds of substations and communications sites, most located in remote areas. These facilities have been subjected to increased incidents of vandalism.

This bill would give the agencies authority to curb this threat to Federal property and our Nation's power infrastructure by vesting them with the authority to pay rewards to individuals that offer information leading to prosecution of vandals. These rewards

would be limited to \$1,000 each and would be paid out of existing appropriations.

The Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and Bonneville Power Administration already have such authority. Bonneville estimates that they save \$800,000 annually by successfully applying this program to protect Federal property. The Department of Energy has asked that we extend this authority to the other power marketing administrations, and I urge my colleagues to do so by adopting this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2924 would authorize the administrators of the Western Area and Southeastern and Southwestern Power Administrations to carry out reward programs to reduce vandalism and theft at their facilities. The bill would authorize agencies to offer up to \$1,000 to anyone providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of individuals charged with vandalism and/or theft at the three power market administrations. The Bonneville Power Administration has similar authority and its rewards program has helped reduce crime.

Mr. Speaker, the administration supports H.R. 2924. It is a worthwhile bill. I urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I certainly urge the passage of the legislation. I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2924, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1600

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY AT BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FACILITIES

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2925) to amend the Reclamation Recreation Management Act of 1992 in order to provide for the security of dams, facilities, and resources under

the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2925

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

#### SECTION. 1. LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY AT BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FACILITIES.

(a) PUBLIC SAFETY REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior shall issue regulations necessary to maintain law and order and protect persons and property within Reclamation projects and on Reclamation lands.

(b) VIOLATIONS; CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—Any person who knowingly and willfully violates any regulation issued under subsection (a) shall be fined under chapter 227, subchapter C of title 18, United States Code, imprisoned for not more than 6 months, or both. Any person charged with a violation of a regulation issued under subsection (a) may be tried and sentenced by any United States magistrate judge designated for that purpose by the court by which he was appointed, in the same manner and subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided for in section 3401 of title 18, United States Code.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—The Secretary of the Interior may—

(1) authorize law enforcement personnel from the Department of the Interior to act as law enforcement officers to enforce Federal laws and regulations within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands;

(2) authorize law enforcement personnel of any other Federal agency that has law enforcement authority (with the exception of the Department of Defense) or law enforcement personnel of any State or local government, including an Indian tribe, when deemed economical and in the public interest, through cooperative agreement or contract, to act as law enforcement officers to enforce Federal laws and regulations within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands with such enforcement powers as may be so assigned to them by the Secretary;

(3) cooperate with any State or local government, including an Indian tribe, in the enforcement of the laws or ordinances of that State or local government; and

(4) provide reimbursement to a State or local government, including an Indian tribe, for expenditures incurred in connection with activities under paragraph (2).

(d) POWERS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—A law enforcement officer authorized by the Secretary of the Interior under subsection (c) may—

(1) carry firearms within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands;

(2) make arrests without warrants for—

(A) any offense against the United States committed in his presence; or

(B) any felony cognizable under the laws of the United States if he has—

(i) reasonable grounds to believe that the person to be arrested has committed or is committing such a felony, and

(ii) such arrest occurs within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands or the person to be arrested is fleeing therefrom to avoid arrest;

(3) execute within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands any warrant or other process issued by a court or officer of competent jurisdiction for the enforcement of the provisions of any Federal law or regulation issued pursuant to law for any offense committed within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands; and

(4) conduct investigations within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands of offenses against the United States committed within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands if the Federal law enforcement agency having investigative jurisdiction over the offense committed declines to investigate the offense.

(e) LEGAL STATUS OF STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—

(1) STATE OR LOCAL OFFICERS NOT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, a law enforcement officer of any State or local government, including an Indian tribe, authorized to act as a law enforcement officer under subsection (c) shall not be deemed to be a Federal employee and shall not be subject to the provisions of law relating to Federal employment, including those relating to hours of work, rates of compensation, employment discrimination, leave, unemployment compensation, and Federal benefits.

(2) APPLICATION OF FEDERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT.—For purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the Federal Tort Claims Act), a law enforcement officer of any State or local government, including an Indian tribe, shall, when acting as a law enforcement officer under subsection (c) and while under Federal supervision and control, and only when carrying out Federal law enforcement responsibilities, be considered a Federal employee.

(3) AVAILABILITY OF WORKERS COMPENSATION.—For purposes of subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, relating to compensation to Federal employees for work injuries, a law enforcement officer of any State or local government, including an Indian tribe, shall, when acting as a law enforcement officer under subsection (c) and while under Federal supervision and control, and only when carrying out Federal law enforcement responsibilities, be deemed a civil service employee of the United States within the meaning of the term employee as defined in section 8101 of title 5, and the provisions of that subchapter shall apply. Benefits under such subchapter shall be reduced by the amount of any entitlement to State or local workers compensation benefits arising out of the same injury or death.

(f) CONCURRENT JURISDICTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed or applied to limit or restrict the investigative jurisdiction of any Federal law enforcement agency, or to affect any existing right of a State or local government, including an Indian tribe, to exercise civil and criminal jurisdiction within a Reclamation project or on Reclamation lands.

(g) REGULATIONS.—Except for the authority provided in section 2(c)(1), the law enforcement authorities provided for in this section may be exercised only pursuant to regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior and approved by the Attorney General.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL.—The term "law enforcement personnel" means an employee of a Federal, State, or local government agency, including an Indian tribal agency, who has successfully completed law enforcement training approved by the Secretary and is authorized to carry firearms, make arrests, and execute service of process to enforce criminal laws of his or her employing jurisdiction.

(2) RECLAMATION PROJECT; RECLAMATION LANDS.—The terms "Reclamation project" and "Reclamation lands" have the meaning given such terms in section 2803 of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 4601 32).