

S. 1729. An act to provide assistance with respect to the mental health needs of individuals affected by the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

S. 1789. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve the safety and efficacy of pharmaceuticals for children.

DIFFERENCES WITH THE OTHER BODY

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, the House this year has had a very, very

productive year. We have passed a good education bill, we have passed a faith-based initiative bill, we have passed an energy package; and, of course, we have passed an economic stimulus bill.

A funny thing has happened, though, on the way to the President's desk. It is called the United States other body, whose leader said, and I quote, or this is what has been said by that leader: "The economic stimulus issue is not a front-burner issue. Other legislation, particularly government spending, is more important."

That is a defining difference between the Republican House and the Democrat Senate. We believe people who are out of work, businesses that are cut-

ting back, the economy that is going sluggish should be a front-burner issue. Unfortunately, the United States other body thinks it is no big deal, and that passing spending bills is more important.

But how are they doing on passing other spending? Here is what we have done on the House side. We have passed the energy bill, the economic stimulus, faith-based, the farm bill, trade promotion, antiterrorism and human cloning.

Where is the Senate? Nowhere. Maybe Mr. JEFFORDS needs to reexamine.

APPROPRIATIONS BILLS, 107TH CONGRESS, 1ST SESSION

Bill	House passed	Senate passed	CNF passed	Time elapsed between H/S
Supplemental, FY 01 .....	6/20/01	7/10/01	7/20/01	21 days.
Supplemental, FY 02 .....	9/14/01	9/14/01	9/14/01	.....
Agriculture .....	7/11/01	10/25/01	11/13/01	90 days.
Commerce/Justice/State .....	7/18/01	9/13/01	11/14/01	86 days.
Defense .....	11/28/01	12/7/01	.....	9 days.
DC .....	9/25/01	11/7/01	12/6/01	73 days.
Energy/Water .....	6/28/01	7/19/01	11/1/01	22 days.
Foreign Operations .....	7/24/01	10/24/01	.....	90 days.
Interior .....	6/21/01	7/12/01	10/17/01	22 days.
Labor/HHS/Education .....	10/11/01	11/6/01	.....	25 days.
Legislative .....	7/31/01	7/31/01	11/1/01	.....
Military Construction .....	9/21/01	9/26/01	10/17/01	5 days.
Transportation .....	6/26/01	8/1/01	11/30/01	185 days.
Treasury/Postal .....	7/25/01	9/19/01	10/31/01	54 days.
VA/HUD .....	7/30/01	8/2/01	11/8/01	3 days.

<sup>1</sup> (Sent to conf 10/31.)

ANNOUNCING INTRODUCTION OF WORKER OPPORTUNITY AND RELIEF COMPENSATION ACT

(Mr. MOORE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and include extraneous material.)

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, the people in the Congress came together with the President and all the American people as a result of the tragedy on September 11 in New York and Washington. I think we need to show that same spirit again when we come together for displaced workers in this country.

The people in this country who lost their jobs as a result of the faltering economy or the horrible event on September 11 do not need a handout. They do not need a tax cut. They need a helping hand just to get through this personal crisis they have suffered as a result of their loss of jobs until they can find a new job. These people are taxpayers and they will work again when they have the opportunity. But until that time, they need health insurance and they need extended unemployment benefits.

I am concerned that the latest press accounts reflect there may be some problem with the stimulus package. If that is the case, we need at the very least to pass a stand-alone provision for these displaced workers. The President has committed to support such a stand-alone provision.

I have introduced today the Worker Opportunity and Relief Compensation

Act. I ask for your support for that legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I include a December 7 letter from the President as follows:

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, December 7, 2001.

Hon. DENNIS MOORE,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MOORE: In October, I called on Congress to pass meaningful legislation to help Americans who have been affected by the economic consequences of the terrorist attacks. I called for immediate assistance for workers who have lost their jobs, and for tax provisions that would immediately and significantly stimulate the economy to create more jobs.

I made clear that I was open to good ideas for achieving these goals. And I laid out some general principles that are essential components of a meaningful stimulus package:

Tax rebates for lower-income Americans; Acceleration of marginal tax rate reductions; Enhanced expensing of capital expenditures; and Elimination of the corporate alternative minimum tax.

In the two months since I called on Congress to act, many promising ideas to assist workers have been put forward by both Democrats and Republicans. In November, Chairman Baucus proposed temporary expansions of health care and unemployment benefits for displaced workers. A bipartisan group of moderate Senators also developed a specific proposal for temporary assistance to workers, including a health insurance tax credit. This week, Chairman Thomas and the Republican leadership of the House announced their support for a specific set of temporary expansions of health care and unemployment benefits for displaced workers. Their proposal includes tax credits and mandatory spending, including block grants for

health insurance, and extensions and increases in unemployment benefits that could all be implemented quickly.

I believe that the recent proposal from the House Republicans, coupled with the essential components of an economic stimulus bill that I have outlined above, can form the basis of a legislative package that provides the assistance and new jobs that American workers need now. I urge the Congressional Leadership to bring this legislation expanding unemployment and health benefits to my desk by the end of the year. Additionally, I urge Congress to send me legislation regardless of the success or failure of any other elements of the economic stimulus measures now pending. I continue to strongly believe that the best course is to combine assistance for dislocated workers with meaningful tax cuts that will create jobs for American workers.

My Administration stands ready to work with Democrats and Republicans to turn good ideas into law. We have an extraordinary opportunity to rise to the challenge of extraordinary economic times. I hope that Congress can now act quickly.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). 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.