

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BONILLA). Earlier the Chair had announced that one-minute speeches would be limited to 10 Members per side prior to business. However, there has been a misunderstanding, apparently, and in light of that, the Chair will recognize two additional speakers on each side.

THE PRESIDENT'S TAX CUT

(Mr. THOMPSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, Americans deserve a tax cut, but they also deserve a Congress that carefully considers and balances all of our budget priorities, including Social Security, Medicare and debt reduction. Tomorrow we will vote on the first part of the President's tax cut proposal. This vote will be premature. The administration is not submitting the details of the budget until spring. Congress has yet to debate and adopt a budget resolution. Without a budget framework, we are forging into the great unknown. It is bad public policy and it is political hocus-pocus to pass any bill costing this much without first having a budget. Some are urging quick action in order to give the economy a boost. However, the economic prosperity of recent years has been due in part to fiscally conservative policies that, coupled with the hard work of the American people, turned deficits into surpluses and reduced our debt.

I agree that taxpayers should benefit from the budget surplus, and I will support a tax cut but one that is fair and one that we can afford. We need to be fiscally responsible and we need a bipartisan budget before we can consider any specific spending measures or cuts. The American people deserve no less.

□ 1030

**EVEN CBO SAYS IT WOULD NOT
BET ON ITS OWN BUDGET NUMBERS**

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, introducing a trillion dollar tax bill without a budget framework is like going to the racetrack and putting all your money on the long shot. The leaders of this House only win their wager if the Congressional Budget Office's surplus projections are accurate for the next 10 years, but even CBO says it would not bet on its own budget numbers. CBO says its surplus estimate for the next year has a 50 percent chance of being wrong by more than \$97 billion. For

years 6 through 10, CBO says the odds are even longer. This is a big problem, because two-thirds of the \$5.6 trillion surplus are supposed to materialize in years 6 through 10.

Mr. Speaker, almost 20 years ago Congress made another gamble on the projected budget surpluses and it lost. That is exactly the way then-Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker described the 1981 tax cut. He called it a riverboat gamble.

We lost enough money on that bet. Let us pass a budget resolution before we take up tax and spending bills.

**EASING REGULATORY BURDENS
AND LOWERING TAXES CREATES
MORE FREEDOM FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE**

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, these are interesting times. We are going to have a good battle and discussion on things that conservatives have fought for for many years: Easing the regulatory burdens, lowering taxes. Although some of my friends on the other side seem to be frustrated with this, it should come as no surprise; easing regulatory burdens, lowering taxes creates more freedom for the American people.

I will stand on the side of freedom and individual responsibility and individual initiative every day of the week. It is a sound foundation. It is solid ground.

Let me address the issue of 10-year projections. I used to be a schoolteacher. Everybody does long-term projections. Corporate entities do long-term projections. To base a debate on the ability of not taking into account long-term projections does not understand the real world in corporate America or local taxing districts.

I look forward to having these votes. I look forward to providing more freedom to the American people.

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ONE
MINUTES**

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that in light of the misunderstanding that occurred regarding the number of one minutes, that any additional Members on either side that wish to deliver one minutes might be able to do so.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BONILLA). The Chair appreciates the sentiment of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM), but the Chair has already tried to exercise a little flexibility in light of the misunderstanding this morning. The Chair does not recognize for that unanimous consent request at this time.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. STENHOLM. If we all understand, both sides of the aisle, the procedures of the day in which it was announced there would be unlimited one minutes, under what procedure is this able to be changed?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announced earlier that there would initially be ten Members per side recognized. Precedents under clause 2 of rule XVII commit that matter of recognition entirely to the discretion of the Chair. Again, the Chair tried to exercise some flexibility in light of the miscommunication.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 337, nays 72, answered "present" 1, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 28]
YEAS—337

Abercrombie	Brown (SC)	Culberson
Akin	Bryant	Cummings
Andrews	Burton	Cunningham
Army	Buyer	Davis (CA)
Bachus	Callahan	Davis (FL)
Baker	Calvert	Davis (IL)
Baldacci	Camp	Davis, Jo Ann
Baldwin	Cannon	Davis, Tom
Ballenger	Cantor	Deal
Barcia	Capito	DeGette
Barr	Capps	Delahunt
Barrett	Cardin	DeLay
Bartlett	Carson (IN)	DeMint
Barton	Carson (OK)	Deutsch
Bass	Castle	Dingell
Bentsen	Chabot	Doggett
Bereuter	Chambliss	Dooley
Berkley	Clayton	Doolittle
Berman	Clement	Doyle
Biggert	Clyburn	Dreier
Blagojevich	Coble	Duncan
Blumenauer	Collins	Dunn
Blunt	Combest	Edwards
Boehlert	Conyers	Ehlers
Boehner	Cooksey	Ehrlich
Bonilla	Cox	Emerson
Bono	Coyne	Engel
Boswell	Cramer	Eshoo
Boyd	Crenshaw	Etheridge
Brady (TX)	Crowley	Evans
Brown (FL)	Cubin	Everett