take. Legal Services Corporation, and on and on. Something that troubles a lot of us a great deal is what would happen to environmental initiatives and land use initiatives. President Bush has made two environmental promises. One is to provide $900 million or what is called full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This is a fund for acquiring open space and parks and recreation and to eliminate $4.9 billion of maintenance backlog in the National Park Service. However, with his funding totals, he can only live up to these promises by consulting other vital environmental and natural resource programs.

So the Republican budget does not add up. The Republican budget would shorten the solvency of Medicare as the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPRATT) and others have pointed out. The Republican budget would not live up to our obligations in education and would fall short of our obligations in providing health care for veterans. All of this is because, seen from a 10-year projection, it looks like there is so much money that it seems possible to offer a two point something trillion dollar tax cut. Well, it is not possible if we are going to meet our obligations, if we are going to be fiscally disciplined so that we can have consumer confidence and investor confidence and a sound economy.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) for joining us here this evening.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE
By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECIERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal business.

Mr. LIPSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of official business.

Ms. BALDWIN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of family illness.

Mr. SHAW (at the request of Mr. ARMY) for today and until 3 p.m. March 28 on account of illness in the family.

Mr. STEARNS (at the request of Mr. ARMY) for today on account of official business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED
By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. KIND) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. MILLER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Members (at the request of Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BILLIKAS, for 5 minutes, today and March 28.

Mrs. WILSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today and March 28.

Mr. KELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHIMKUS, for 5 minutes, March 28.

Mr. PLATTS, for 5 minutes, March 28.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED
Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker’s table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 295. An act to provide emergency relief to small businesses affected by significant increases in the prices of heating oil, natural gas, and electricity for purposes; to the Committee on Small Business in addition to the Committee on Agriculture for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 356. An act to ensure the independence and nonpartisan operation of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration; to the Committee on Small Business.

ADJOURNMENT
Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accorded leave of absence.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.
Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:


1347. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on Restructuring Costs Associated With Business Combinations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

1348. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on the Use of Employees of Non-Federal Entities to Provide Services to Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.