

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Is the gentleman telling us that the supplemental appropriations will come up next Tuesday?

Mr. DREIER. I would say we anticipate that we will see the supplemental bill considered before we consider the budget resolution. And the Committee on Rules is planning to meet Monday evening for consideration of the supplemental appropriation bill. We cannot say with absolute certainty when exactly it will come up, but it is the first thing scheduled legislatively beyond the measures that we will consider under suspension of the rules. I think it is quite possible it will be on Tuesday.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. What kind of rule will we have? Will it be an open rule or a restricted rule?

Mr. DREIER. I am privileged to serve as chairman of the Committee on Rules, but it is impossible for me at this juncture to predict exactly what this 13-member committee that spends hours deliberating over major public policy issues will do at the end of the day on this. I can assure the gentleman it will be a fair and balanced rule. But I will oppose putting it out unless it is a fair and balanced rule that allows for consideration of very important measures.

I know my colleague joins me in wanting to ensure that we get the resources necessary to our men and women in uniform who are having such great success in Iraq. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. I ask my friend from California which day would he expect us to consider the budget and what type of rule would he anticipate for considering the budget?

Mr. DREIER. I am happy to say that, again, that we anticipate that the first major measure of the week that we will consider, following suspensions, will be the supplemental appropriations bill. And the budget itself will likely be considered in the Committee on Rules on Tuesday evening. And again, I cannot predict exactly what shape the rule will take. In fact, when we are completed here, I will be making an announcement for the deadline for consideration of amendments. I will tell the gentleman, as in the past, the Committee on Rules has had a tendency, and I hope to continue that pattern, for actually showing preference for substitute packages that would be offered by Members. And we want to encourage Members who would like to offer budget substitutes to get those to us just as quickly as we possibly can.

Again, it is difficult to say at this moment exactly what that rule will consist of.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. If we have consideration of the rule on Tuesday, what day does the gentleman expect the budget to come to the Floor?

Mr. DREIER. Well, again, the supplemental appropriations bill is the first

item that we will be working on, and then it will be some time later in the week. Obviously, if we do as I suspect, the Committee on Rules will make in order different substitutes; we will need to have time for that. So it will be later in the week next week. So I cannot tell the gentleman exactly what day it will be, but it will be into the week. And again, quite possibly, it could extend until Friday.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Ms. LEWIS of Georgia. I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I would ask if my friend from California expects the rule to be on the floor Wednesday of next week?

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LEWIS of California. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to say to the distinguished ranking minority member of the Committee on the Budget that it is our plan to consider the rule on the budget in the Committee on Rules probably late Tuesday afternoon. So depending on exactly what happens time-wise on consideration of the supplemental appropriations bill, it is quite possible that we could begin work on this on Wednesday, but I am not absolutely certain at this juncture what day it would be.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, will the deadline for filing proposed substitutes or amendments be 5 o'clock on Monday?

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I would say that it is our intention in light of the fact that we are discussing this Thursday afternoon that the announcement that I plan to make when we complete this colloquy is that we will ask for the amendments to the budget to be submitted to the Committee on Rules by 10 a.m. on Tuesday which will allow us to meet Tuesday afternoon. So I would encourage, we are now before 3 o'clock on Thursday; I would encourage Members to begin looking at budget substitutes that they may want to offer and fashion those.

I understand it will be tomorrow before they have access to the full text, but I would encourage them tomorrow and over the weekend and on Monday to assemble those substitutes or proposed amendments that they would have, and our deadline is intended to be 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning.

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California (Mr. DREIER) for being so helpful in providing us the information.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES ON AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of March 14 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006. Any Member who wishes to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules to room H-312 of the Capitol no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 15.

As in past years, the Committee on Rules intends to give priority to amendments offered as complete substitutes.

Members are advised that the text of the concurrent resolution as ordered reported by the Committee on the Budget should be available on the Web sites of both the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Rules tomorrow, Friday, March 11.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel and the Congressional Budget Office to ensure that their substitute amendments are properly drafted and scored and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,
MARCH 14, 2005

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

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

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY,
MARCH 15, 2005

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, March 14, 2005, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, March 15, 2005, for morning hour debates as though after May 16, 2005, thereafter to resume its session at 10 a.m.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday