

2492. A letter from the Chairman, Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, transmitting the Commission's 35th annual report of the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, pursuant to 24 U.S.C. 4275(3); to the Committee on Government Operations.

2493. A letter from the Chairman, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 1993, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(j); to the Committee on Government Operations.

2494. A letter from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting notification of the determination that it is in the public interest to make a proposed contract award to: First, the Rappahannock Area Development Commission [RADCO] to establish a pilot telecommuting center in the Fredericksburg, VA, area, and second, the city of Hagerstown, MD, to establish a pilot telecommuting center in the Hagerstown area, pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 253(c)(7); to the Committee on Government Operations.

2495. A letter from the Secretary, Mississippi River Commission, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 1993, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552B(j); to the Committee on Government Operations.

2496. A letter from the Chairman, Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting the annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1993, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Operations.

2497. A letter from the Executive Director, State Justice Institute, transmitting the annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1993, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Operations.

2498. A letter from the Deputy Associate Director for Collection and Disbursement, Department of the Interior, transmitting a report on proposed refunds of excess royalty payments in OCS areas, pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1339(b); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2499. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting the 1993 section 8 report on national historic and natural landmarks that have been damaged or to which damage to their integrity is anticipated, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1a-5(a); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2500. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to allow removal of suits against the United States and its agencies, as well as those against Federal officers, and to allow removal of suits against Federal agencies and officers that are brought in tribal courts, courts of Indian offenses, and local courts of U.S. territories and possessions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

2501. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Directors, Panama Canal Commission, transmitting the Commission's report, including unaudited financial statements, covering the operations of the Panama Canal during fiscal year 1993, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3722; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

2502. A letter from the Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, transmitting the Department's annual report on management systems, pursuant to Public Law 102-240, section 1034(a) (105 Stat. 1977); to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation.

2503. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. International Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's 76th quarterly report

on trade between the United States and the nonmarket economy countries, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2440; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2504. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Federal Equal Opportunity Recruitment Program for fiscal year 1993, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3905(d)(2); jointly, to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Post Office and Civil Service.

2505. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification that the President has exercised the national interest waiver provision of section 539 of the fiscal year 1994 Foreign Operations Appropriations Export Financing and Related Programs Act to provide assistance to Jordan; jointly, to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Appropriations.

2506. A letter from the Comptroller General of the United States, U.S. General Accounting Office, transmitting a report entitled, "Measuring U.S.-Canada Trade: Shifting Trade Winds May Threaten Recent Progress" (GAO/GGO-94-4); jointly, to the Committees on Government Operations and Ways and Means.

2507. A letter from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting the annual report regarding the accessibility standards issues, revised, amended, or repealed under the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, as amended, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4151; jointly, to the Committees on Public Works and Transportation and Education and Labor.

¶3.4 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Hallen, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 469. An Act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the Vietnam Women's Memorial.

S. 1070. An Act to provide that certain politically appointed Federal officers may not receive cash awards for a certain period during a Presidential election year, to prohibit cash awards to Executive Schedule officers, and for other purposes.

S. 1618. An Act to establish Tribal Self-Governance, and for other purposes.

S. 1624. An Act to standardize withdrawal options for Thrift Savings Plan participants, and for other purposes.

S. 1654. An Act to make certain technical corrections.

S. 1783. An Act to amend the Mount Rushmore Commemorative Coin Act to allow proceeds from the sale of coins to be used to renovate the Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

S. 1784. An Act to restore the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska to the Department of the Interior list of Indian entities recognized and eligible to receive services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 102-521, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican leader, appointed James C. Dobson, of Colorado and Cynthia Gulley Wiedemann, of Texas, to the Commission on Child and Family Welfare.

¶3.5 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

¶3.6 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT— STATE OF SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. VOLKMER, laid before the House a message from the President, which was read as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to present my first annual report on the state of small business. This report covers data for fiscal year 1992, a period of slow economic recovery that occurred just before my Administration took office.

Small businesses create many new jobs and are an important part of our Nation's economic growth. That is why, in my first address to the Joint Session of the Congress, I proposed some of the boldest targeted incentives for small business in history. These measures will benefit not only small businesses, but the American work force, our Nation's economy, and our international competitiveness.

At the same time, we must undertake some major corrective efforts. As small business owners will testify, the best thing the government could do for small business and the economy is to reduce the deficit. The primary goal of the economic program is to set the economy on the proper course for the short- and long-term future. Deficit reduction and shifting consumption to investment are the ways to accomplish that goal.

Reducing health care costs while ensuring that all Americans have access to health care is another national imperative. I have said it before: bringing health spending in line with inflation would do more for the private sector than almost any incentive or tax cut we could promote. At the same time, we must find a way to provide health care for everyone. Currently two-thirds of the Americans without health insurance are employed—many in small businesses. My health care task force has evaluated many proposals to ensure that health care is available to small business employees and affordable for small business owners. It will take time to change our health care system, but we are taking the important first steps.

We will also need to keep looking for better ways to provide for workers upon retirement. As this report documents, pension plans, like health plans, are much less available and affordable in small businesses. And as the baby boom generation moves toward retirement, issues related to Social Security and pension plan availability take on new urgency.

Beyond these long-range efforts, I have asked the Congress to join me in investing in small business and economic growth through specific tax incentives, capital formation initiatives, enterprise and empowerment zones, technology investments, and education and job training efforts.

To encourage long-term investment in small business, I supported—and the Congress passed—a 50 percent tax exclusion on capital gains from invest-

ments in qualified small business stock held for at least 5 years. This incentive, which will help small businesses raise critically needed capital, is projected to create 80,000 new jobs over the next 5 years. I also favored such an exclusion for investment in small business venture capital firms targeting investments to minority-owned businesses. Another small business incentive I supported increases the section 179 expensing limitation from \$10,000 to \$17,500, which will enable a number of smaller firms to purchase equipment needed for modernization and growth.

My Administration supports easing the regulatory burden on small firms so that more of the time spent filling out paperwork—especially complicated or duplicative paperwork—can be used for more productive activities. There are a number of measures we can take. We have already simplified the computation of certain taxes such as the alternative minimum tax and we have eased the safe harbor rules related to the individual estimated tax. And we can ensure that Federal agencies comply with the Regulatory Flexibility Act, which requires them to assess the effects of their proposed regulations on small firms.

Recent low interest rates have made resources more available to consumers for purchasing the products and services of American business and have made loans somewhat less expensive for the business community. In addition, I have proposed a number of measures to make capital more available to small business. To ease the "credit crunch" faced by many small firms, new provisions are loosening restrictions on banks so they can more easily make "character" loans, easing appraisal requirements for real estate used as collateral for small business loans, eliminating overlapping Federal regulations on lending institutions, and establishing an appeals process for banks and consumers who believe they have been unfairly treated by regulators.

Small and minority-owned businesses would also benefit from a strengthened system of community development banks. A proposed Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Fund would support investment in community development financial institutions (CDFIs). These CDFIs would be a source for loans and technical assistance to individuals and businesses in communities underserved by traditional lending institutions.

Another way we plan to support the growth of new small enterprises, especially in economically depressed areas, is through the establishment of empowerment zones, enterprise communities, and rural development investment areas. The zones and communities will be nominated by State and local governments and chosen on a competitive basis after certain criteria based on population, geographic area, and poverty level are met. Businesses in these designated communities can take advantage of expanded tax-ex-

empt financing. Businesses in empowerment zones will be given additional employment credits and tax incentives.

Only by fully developing our technological and human resources can we expect to be leaders in the international marketplace. That means investment in technology and worker skills.

There are a number of actions we can take to remain technologically competitive. We can extend the research and experimentation tax credit to encourage more research activities by American small businesses. I would like to see an expansion of the Small Business Innovation Research program, which, as documented in this report, helps channel Federal research funding to innovative small firms. I support a strong Small Business Technology Transfer program in which small businesses work with Federal laboratories and universities to develop promising technology and introduce it into the marketplace. The manufacturing extension centers we have proposed would help small- and medium-sized businesses evaluate new manufacturing technology. And I'd like to see an expansion of the Commerce Department's Advanced Technology Program, which provides matching grants to companies working on generic technology. Finally, we need to speed up computer networks and coordinate Federal information and telecommunications policy.

We are looking at innovative ways to employ, train, and provide for a work force second to none. To begin with, we have extended the targeted jobs tax credit, which is available to employers who hire economically disadvantaged youth and members of specific at-risk groups. But that is just a small part of a large picture: many State, local, and private groups are experimenting with innovative ways to develop and train a competitive work force for the 21st century.

Clearly, our Nation faces many challenges. Fortunately, we face them with an almost limitless resource—the variety and ingenuity of the American people. If we can meet our national challenges with the energy and innovative spirit of America's small business owners, we will be doing very well. So I encourage the Members of Congress, together with young people and small business owners and all Americans to reach into your imaginations: dream boldly and begin something new.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 1, 1994.*

By unanimous consent, the message, together with the accompanying papers, was referred to the Committee on Small Business.

¶3.7 RECESS—1:54 P.M.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. VOLKMER, pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, declared the House in recess at 1 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m., subject to the call of the Chair.

¶3.8 AFTER RECESS—6:20 P.M.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. VOLKMER, called the House to order.

¶3.9 PERMISSION TO FILE REPORT

On motion of Mr. DIXON, by unanimous consent, the Committee on Appropriations was granted permission until midnight tonight to file a privileged report (Rept. No. 103-415) on the bill (H.R. 3759) providing emergency supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 1994, and for other purposes.

Mr. MYERS reserved all points of order against said bill.

¶3.10 SUBPOENA

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. VOLKMER, laid before the House a communication, which was read as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 1, 1994.

Hon. THOMAS S. FOLEY,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to rule L (50) of the Rules of the House, that my Committee has been served with a subpoena issued by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the General Counsel to the Clerk, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges of the House.

Sincerely yours,

DAN ROSTENKOWSKI,
Chairman.

¶3.11 SUBPOENA

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. VOLKMER, laid before the House a communication, which was read as follows:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 26, 1994.

Hon. THOMAS S. FOLEY,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to rule L of the rules of the House that a member of my Committee staff has been served with a subpoena issued by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the General Counsel to the Clerk, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not inconsistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

DAN ROSTENKOWSKI.

¶3.12 SUBPOENA

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. VOLKMER, laid before the House a communication, which was read as follows:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 26, 1994.

Hon. THOMAS S. FOLEY,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House, this is to formally notify you that my office has been served with a subpoena for employment and salary records of a staff person. The subpoena was issued by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, in connection with a civil case on a personal injury claim.