

ment of Conscience and Call to Action, subsequently commended or endorsed by the Southern Baptist Convention, the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church, and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, United States of America, in which they pledged to end their "silence in the face of the suffering of all those persecuted for their religious faith" and "to do what is in our power to the end that the Government of the United States will take appropriate action to combat the intolerable religious persecution now victimizing fellow believers and those of other faiths";

Whereas the World Evangelical Fellowship has declared September 29, 1996, and the last Sunday in September each year thereafter, as an international day of prayer on behalf of persecuted Christians, and that day will be observed by numerous churches and human rights groups around the world;

Whereas the United States of America since its founding has been a harbor of refuge and freedom to worship for believers from John Winthrop to Roger Williams to William Penn and a haven for the oppressed, and has guaranteed freedom of worship in this country for people of all faiths;

Whereas historically the United States has in many instances failed to intervene successfully to stop anti-Christian and other religious persecution; and

Whereas in the past the United States has forcefully taken up the cause of other persecuted religious believers and the United States should continue to intervene on behalf of persecuted Christians throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) reaffirms its commitment to the Nation's historic devotion to the principles of religious liberty;

(2) unequivocally condemns the egregious human rights abuses and denials of religious liberty to Christians and other persecuted religions around the world and calls upon the responsible regimes to cease such abuses;

(3) strongly recommends that the President expand and invigorate United States international advocacy on behalf of persecuted Christians and other persecuted religions and initiate a thorough examination of all United States policies that affect persecuted Christians;

(4) encourages the President to take organizational steps to strengthen United States policies to combat religious persecution, including the creation of a special advisory committee for religious liberty abroad which has an appropriate mandate and adequate staff or to consider the appointment of a White House special advisor on religious persecution; and

(5) applauds the actions of the World Evangelical Fellowship in declaring an annual international day of prayer on behalf of persecuted Christians.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GUNDERSON, recognized Mr. GILMAN and Mr. HAMILTON, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said resolution, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GUNDERSON, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and

said agreed to was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

¶113.33 NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES ACT

Mr. BOEHLERT moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3217) to provide for ballast water management to prevent the introduction and spread of nonindigenous species into the waters of the United States, and for other purposes; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GUNDERSON, recognized Mr. BOEHLERT and Mr. CLEMENT, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill, as amended?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GUNDERSON, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

So, two-thirds of the Members present having voted in favor thereof, the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby the rules were suspended and said bill, as amended, was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk request the concurrence of the Senate in said bill.

¶113.34 WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER

AGAINST THE CONFERENCE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 2202

Mr. QUILLEN, by direction of the Committee on Rules, reported (Rept. No. 104-829) the resolution (H. Res. 528) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2202) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve deterrence of illegal immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel, by increasing penalties for alien smuggling and for document fraud, by reforming exclusion and deportation law and procedures, by improving the verification system for eligibility for employment, and through other measures, to reform the legal immigration system and facilitate legal entries into the United States, and for other purposes.

When said resolution and report were referred to the House Calendar and ordered printed.

¶113.35 WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER

AGAINST THE CONFERENCE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY H.R. 3259

Mr. QUILLEN, by direction of the Committee on Rules, reported (Rept. No. 104-830) the resolution (H. Res. 529) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3259) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

When said resolution and report were referred to the House Calendar and ordered printed.

¶113.36 WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 4(B) OF RULE XI FOR CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Mr. QUILLEN, by direction of the Committee on Rules, called up the following resolution (H. Res. 525):

Resolved, That the requirement of clause 4(b) of rule XI for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported from that committee for the remainder of the second session of the One Hundred Fourth Congress providing for consideration or disposition of any of the following:

(1) A bill or joint resolution making general appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, any amendment thereto, any conference report thereon, or any amendment reported in disagreement from a conference thereon.

(2) A bill or joint resolution that includes provisions making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1997, any amendment thereto, any conference report thereon, or any amendment reported in disagreement from a conference thereon.

SEC. 2. It shall be in order at any time for the remainder of the second session of the One Hundred Fourth Congress for the Speaker to entertain motions to suspend the rules, provided that the object of any such motion is announced from the floor at least one hour before the motion is offered. In scheduling the consideration of legislation under this authority, the Speaker or his designee shall consult with the minority leader or his designee.

When said resolution was considered.

After debate,

¶113.37 POINT OF ORDER

Mr. VOLKMER addressed the House during debate, and during the course of his remarks,

Mr. SOLOMON made a point of order, and said:

"Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is referring to matters before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, and that is against the House rules. We need to stay to the germaneness of this expedited procedure."

Mr. VOLKMER was recognized to speak to the point of order, and said:

"My earlier comments were perhaps not in order, but where the gentleman has interjected himself, I am speaking of matters that already have been resolved by the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and are no longer pending before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct."

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GILLMOR, sustained the point of order, and said:

"The Chair is prepared to rule, and the question is whether the matters are properly pending before the House. The issue is not just whether they are now or only at a prior time were ever before the committee, since the matters are not now properly before the House as a question of privilege, and debate on those matters, therefore, is not in order at this point."

¶113.38 POINT OF ORDER

Mr. VOLKMER further addressed the House during debate, and during the course of his remarks,

Mr. SOLOMON made a point of order, and said:

"Mr. Speaker, clause 14 says that we have to be germane to the issue. I would make a point of order that the gentleman's delivery is not germane to this issue."

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GILLMOR, sustained the point of order, and said:

"The gentleman's point of order is well taken, and the Chair would ask the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. VOLKMER] to be in order."

¶113.39 POINT OF ORDER

Mr. WARD addressed the House during debate, and during the course of his remarks,

Mr. LINDER made a point of order, and said:

"The gentleman is referring one more time to matters before the committee on ethics. I believe that is against the rules of the House."

Mr. WATT of North Carolina was recognized to speak to the point of order, and said:

"I just want to submit to the Speaker that this debate is about yielding unprecedented authority to the Speaker of the House. The Speaker's integrity, the person to whom we are proposing to yield that authority, his integrity is at the heart of the matter. If we cannot get to his integrity, then how can we determine whether we ought to be yielding these unprecedented, overwhelming authorities to him?"

"If we do not like what he has been doing. If he has been out disrespecting the House of the United States, then why should we give him some unprecedented authority called martial law? That is at the very heart. His responsibility, his ethics, are at the very heart of the matter."

"I would submit, Mr. Speaker, that this is germane to the issue and the matter before this House."

Mr. WARD was recognized to speak to the point of order, and said:

"Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the gentleman [Mr. LINDER] clarify his point of order so I can know what it is that I have said to which he objects."

Mr. LINDER was recognized to speak further to the point of order, and said:

"Mr. Speaker, over the course of the last 10 days or so, when the minority party has tried to bring to the floor of this House a discussion of matters before the Committee on Ethics, the Chair has consistently ruled that not only referring to the matters before the Committee on Ethics, but referring to press reports about those matters is against the rules of the House."

"The gentleman is standing there with a large print of an editorial out of a newspaper that does precisely that: To make the case, in print, for the people watching this, about matters before

the Committee on Ethics. It strikes me that, if the Chair is going to rule that we cannot talk about it, the same argument would obtain that just displaying it is abusing the rules of the House."

Mr. WARD was recognized to speak further to the point of order, and said:

"Mr. Speaker, I thought the gentleman was responding to my saying that the Speaker had been found guilty of a number of ethics violations, according to a letter from the Ethics Committee dated December 6, 1995."

"I was not referring to the document here displayed. I was referring to his allowing the senior GOPAC official to act as the chief of staff in the Speaker's office, for which he was found guilty. I was referring to abusing the House floor to sell videotapes. That is what I was referring to."

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GILLMOR, sustained the point of order, and said:

"The Chair is prepared to rule, having heard the arguments on both sides."

"The Chair would say that the point of order is well taken; that the gentleman [Mr. WARD] may debate the advisability of granting generic authorities proposed in the pending resolution but may not dwell on the merits of measures that might arise under those authorities."

"The recent series of rulings by the Chair rest more squarely on the stricture against personalities in debate than on the requirements of relevance. With respect to the cases disposed of, today's standard is not a new standard under the precedents. The point is not necessarily whether the matter is still pending elsewhere. The point is that the matter is not pending on the floor here and now as a question of privilege and the point of order is well taken."

"The gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. WARD] may proceed in order."

¶113.40 POINT OF ORDER

Mr. WARD further addressed the House during debate, and during the course of his remarks,

Mr. CUNNINGHAM made a point of order, and said:

"Mr. Speaker, we are prevented from speaking about other Members on the other side, about previous ethics violations. It is not against the rules of the House to do so?"

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GILLMOR, sustained the point of order, and said:

"The Chair would remind all Members that it is not in order to discuss past or present official conduct cases of sitting Members unless the matter is pending before the House as a question of privilege."

After further debate,

On motion of Mr. SOLOMON, the previous question was ordered on the resolution to its adoption or rejection.

The question being put, viva voce,

Will the House agree to said resolution?

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GILLMOR, announced that the yeas had it.

Mr. HALL of Ohio objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

A quorum not being present,

The roll was called under clause 4, rule XV, and the call was taken by electronic device.

When there appeared { Yeas 225
Nays 191

¶113.41 [Roll No. 425] YEAS—225

Allard	Frisa	Myers
Archer	Gallegly	Myrick
Armey	Ganske	Nethercutt
Bachus	Gekas	Neumann
Baker (CA)	Gilchrest	Ney
Baker (LA)	Gillmor	Norwood
Ballenger	Gilman	Nussle
Barr	Goodlatte	Packard
Barrett (NE)	Goodling	Parker
Bartlett	Goss	Paxon
Barton	Graham	Petri
Bass	Greene (UT)	Pombo
Bateman	Greenwood	Porter
Bereuter	Gunderson	Portman
Bilbray	Gutknecht	Pryce
Bilirakis	Hancock	Quillen
Bliley	Hansen	Quinn
Blute	Hastert	Radanovich
Boehlert	Hastings (WA)	Ramstad
Boehner	Hayworth	Regula
Bonilla	Hefley	Riggs
Bono	Herger	Rogers
Brewster	Hilleary	Rohrabacher
Brownback	Hobson	Ros-Lehtinen
Bryant (TN)	Hoekstra	Roth
Bunning	Hoke	Roukema
Burr	Horn	Royce
Burton	Hostettler	Salmon
Buyer	Houghton	Sanford
Callahan	Hunter	Saxton
Calvert	Hutchinson	Scarborough
Camp	Hyde	Schaefer
Campbell	Inglis	Schiff
Canady	Istook	Seastrand
Castle	Johnson (CT)	Sensenbrenner
Chabot	Johnson, Sam	Shadegg
Chambliss	Jones	Shaw
Christensen	Kasich	Shays
Chrysler	Kelly	Shuster
Clinger	Kim	Skeen
Coble	King	Smith (MI)
Collins (GA)	Kingston	Smith (NJ)
Combest	Klug	Smith (TX)
Cox	Knollenberg	Smith (WA)
Crane	Kolbe	Solomon
Crapo	LaHood	Souder
Cremeans	Largent	Spence
Cubin	Latham	Stearns
Cunningham	LaTourette	Stockman
Davis	Laughlin	Stump
Deal	Lazio	Talent
DeLay	Leach	Tate
Diaz-Balart	Lewis (CA)	Tauzin
Dickey	Lewis (KY)	Taylor (NC)
Doolittle	Lightfoot	Thomas
Dornan	Linder	Thornberry
Dreier	Livingston	Tiahrt
Duncan	LoBiondo	Torkildsen
Dunn	Longley	Upton
Ehlers	Lucas	Vucanovich
Ehrlich	Manzullo	Walker
English	Martini	Walsh
Ensign	McCollum	Wamp
Everett	McCrery	Watts (OK)
Ewing	McDade	Weldon (FL)
Fawell	McHugh	Weldon (PA)
Fields (TX)	McInnis	Weller
Flanagan	McIntosh	White
Foley	McKeon	Whitfield
Forbes	Meyers	Wicker
Fowler	Mica	Wolf
Fox	Miller (FL)	Young (AK)
Franks (CT)	Molinaro	Young (FL)
Franks (NJ)	Moorhead	Zeliff
Frelinghuysen	Morella	Zimmer

NAYS—191

Abercrombie	Beilenson	Boucher
Ackerman	Bentsen	Browder
Andrews	Berman	Brown (CA)
Baessler	Bevill	Brown (FL)
Baldacci	Bishop	Brown (OH)
Barcia	Blumenauer	Bryant (TX)
Barrett (WI)	Bonior	Cardin
Becerra	Borski	Chenoweth