

¶12.14 SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION BOARD OF REGENTS

The SPEAKER, pursuant to provisions of sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), appointed Mr. TORRES to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, on the part of the House.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate of the foregoing appointment.

¶12.15 GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The SPEAKER, pursuant to section 103, Public Law 99-371 (20 U.S.C. 4303), appointed Mr. BONIOR to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University, on the part of the House.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate of the foregoing appointment.

¶12.16 KENNEDY CENTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The SPEAKER, pursuant to section 2(a) of the National Cultural Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h(a)), appointed Mr. YATES to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, on the part of the House.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate of the foregoing appointment.

¶12.17 HOUSE PAGE BOARD

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication, which was read as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER,

Washington, DC, February 12, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Section 127 of Public Law 97-377 (2 U.S.C. 88b-3), I hereby appoint the following Member to the House of Representatives Page Board: Mr. KILDEE of Michigan.

Yours very truly,

RICHARD A. GEPHARDT.

¶12.18 AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND EXCISE TAX

Mr. ARCHER moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 668) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the Airport and Airway Trust Fund excise taxes, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SOLOMON, recognized Mr. ARCHER and Mr. HILLEARY, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and pass said bill?

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

Mr. HILLEARY demanded that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays, which demand was supported by one-fifth of the Members present, so the yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SOLOMON, pursuant to clause 5, rule I, announced that further proceedings on the motion were postponed until

Wednesday, February 26, 1997, pursuant to the prior announcement of the Chair.

¶12.19 ORDER OF BUSINESS—SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

On motion of Mr. ARCHER, by unanimous consent,

Ordered, That on Wednesday, February 26, 1997, the Speaker is authorized to entertain motions to suspend the rules and pass the following bills:

H.R. 624, The Armored Car Reciprocity Amendments of 1997; and

H.R. 497, Repeal the Federal Charter of Group Hospitalization and Medical Services.

¶12.20 GEORGE WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE

On motion of Mr. ARCHER, by unanimous consent,

Ordered, That the program and the remarks of Mrs. MORELLA, representing the House of Representatives at the wreath laying ceremony at the Washington Monument for the observance of George Washington's birthday on Thursday, February 20, 1997, be printed in today's Congressional Record.

¶12.21 MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sundry messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

¶12.22 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—U.S.-U.K. SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT

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

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216, 42 U.S.C. 433(e)(1)), I transmit herewith the Supplementary Agreement Amending the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on Social Security (the Supplementary Agreement), which consists of two separate instruments: a principal agreement and an administrative arrangement. The Supplementary Agreement, signed at London on June 6, 1996, is intended to modify certain provisions of the original United States-United Kingdom Social Security Agreement signed at London February 13, 1984.

The United States-United Kingdom Social Security Agreement is similar in objective to the social security agreements with Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. Such bilateral agreements provide for limited coordination between the U.S. and foreign social security systems to eliminate dual social security coverage and taxation, and to help prevent the

loss of benefit protection that can occur when workers divide their careers between two countries.

The Supplementary Agreement, which would amend the 1984 Agreement to update and clarify several of its provisions, is necessitated by changes that have occurred in U.S. and English law in recent years. Among other things, the Supplementary Agreement removes certain restrictions in the original agreement concerning payment of UK disability benefits to residents of the United States. The Supplementary Agreement will also make a number of minor revisions in the Agreement to take account of other changes in U.S. and English law that have occurred in recent years.

The United States-United Kingdom Social Security Agreement, as amended, would continue to contain all provisions mandated by section 233 and other provisions that I deem appropriate to carry out the provisions of section 233, pursuant to section 233(c)(4) of the Act.

I also transmit for the information of the Congress a report prepared by the Social Security Administration explaining the key points of the Supplementary Agreement, along with a paragraph-by-paragraph explanation of the effect of the amendments on the principal agreement and the related administrative arrangement. Annexed to this report is the report required by section 233(e)(1) of the Act on the effect of the Agreement, as amended, on income and expenditures of the U.S. Social Security program and the number of individuals affected by the amended Agreement. The Department of State and the Social Security Administration have recommended the Supplementary Agreement and related documents to me.

I commend the United States-United Kingdom Social Security Agreement and related documents.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 25, 1997.

By unanimous consent, the message, together with the accompanying papers, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 105-47).

¶12.23 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—1997 NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GIBBONS, 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 transmit the 1997 National Drug Control Strategy to the Congress. This strategy renews our bipartisan commitment to reducing drug abuse and its destructive consequences. It reflects the combined and coordinated Federal effort that is directed by National Drug Control Policy Director Barry McCaffrey and includes every department and over 50 agencies. It enlists all State and local leaders from across the country who must share in