

and 73 percent of Guam's electorate casting their votes in favor of a close relationship with the United States through a Commonwealth of Guam structure for local self-government;

Whereas in 1988 the people of Guam first presented the Guam Commonwealth Act to Congress to meet the various aspirations of the people of Guam, which bill has been re-introduced by Guam's Congressional delegates since 1988 until the present;

Whereas Congress has continued to enact other measures to address the various aspirations of the people of Guam, while considering legislative approaches to advance self-government without precluding Guam's further right of self-determination, consistent with the national political climate that emphasizes decentralization of the decision making process from Washington to the local governments and a relationship with the Federal Government that is based on mutual respect and consent of the governed; and

Whereas the people of Guam are loyal citizens of the United States and have repeatedly demonstrated their commitment to the American ideals of democracy and civil rights, as well as to American leadership in times of peace as well as war, prosperity as well as want: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes 100 years of Guam's loyalty and service to the United States; and

(2) will use the centennial anniversary of the 1898 Spanish-American War to reaffirm its commitment to the United States citizens of Guam for increased self-government, consistent with self-determination for the people of Guam.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SHIMKUS, recognized Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. MILLER of California, each for 20 minutes.

After debate,

The question being put, *viva voce*,

Will the House suspend the rules and agree to said resolution?

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

Mr. MILLER of California, objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

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

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶110.9 HOMEOWNERSHIP EXPANSION

Mr. LAZIO moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3899) to expand homeownership in the United States; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SHIMKUS, recognized Mr. LAZIO and Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, 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. SHIMKUS, 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.

¶110.10 FEDERAL REPORTS ELIMINATION

Mr. HORN moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill of the Senate (S. 1364) to eliminate unnecessary and wasteful Federal reports; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SHIMKUS, recognized Mr. HORN and Mr. KUCINICH, 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. SHIMKUS, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. KUCINICH, objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

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

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶110.11 YEAR 2000 COMPUTER PROBLEM

Mrs. MORELLA moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4756) to ensure that the United States is prepared to meet the Year 2000 computer problem; as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SHIMKUS, recognized Mrs. MORELLA and Mr. BARCIA, 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. SHIMKUS, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. BARCIA, objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

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

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶110.12 TRAVEL REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4805) to require reports on travel of Executive branch officers and employees to international conferences, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SHIMKUS, recognized Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mr. HAMILTON, 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. SHIMKUS, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. HAMILTON, objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

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

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶110.13 WRONGFUL EXPROPRIATION BY FORMERLY TOTALITARIAN GOVERNMENTS

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolution (H. Res. 562):

Whereas totalitarian regimes, including Fascist and Communist dictatorships, have caused immeasurable human suffering and loss, degrading not only every conceivable human right, but the human spirit itself;

Whereas the villainy of communism was dedicated, in particular, to the organized and systematic destruction of private property ownership, including ownership of real, personal, business, and financial property, by individuals and communities;

Whereas the confiscation of property without compensation by totalitarian regimes was often designed to victimize people because of religion, ethnicity, national or social origin, or opposition to such regimes;

Whereas certain individuals and communities twice suffered the taking of their properties without compensation, first by the Nazis and their collaborators and next by subsequent Communist regimes;

Whereas churches, synagogues, mosques, and other religious properties, as well as properties such as hospitals, schools and orphanages owned by religious communities, were destroyed or confiscated as a means of breaking the spiritual devotion and allegiance of religious people and dismantling religious communities;

Whereas refugees from communism, in addition to being wrongfully deprived of their property, were often forced to relinquish their citizenship in order to protect themselves and their families from reprisals by the Communists who ruled their countries;

Whereas the participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe have agreed to achieve or maintain full recognition and protection of all types of property, including private property, and the right to prompt, just and effective compensation in the event private property is taken for public use;

Whereas the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, have entered a post-Communist period of transition and democratic development, and many countries have begun the difficult and wrenching process of trying to right the wrongs of previous totalitarian regimes;

Whereas many countries in Central and Eastern Europe have enacted laws providing for the restitution of properties that were illegally or unjustly seized, nationalized, confiscated, or otherwise expropriated by totalitarian regimes;

Whereas legal or administrative restrictions that require claimants to reside in, or be a citizen of, the country from which they seek restitution of, or compensation for, wrongfully expropriated property are arbitrary, discriminatory, and in violation of international law; and

Whereas the rule of law and democratic norms require that the activity of governments and their administrative agencies be

exercised in accordance with the laws passed by their parliaments or legislatures, and such laws themselves must be consistent with international human rights standards: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) welcomes the efforts of many formerly totalitarian countries to address the complex and difficult question of the status of wrongfully expropriated properties;

(2) urges countries which have not already done so to return wrongfully expropriated properties to their rightful owners or, when actual return is not possible, to pay prompt, just and effective compensation, in accordance with principles of justice and in a manner that is just, transparent and fair;

(3) calls for the return of wrongfully expropriated properties to religious communities;

(4) calls on Croatia, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and any other nation whose laws or regulations limit restitution or compensation for wrongfully expropriated properties to persons who reside in, or are citizens of, the country from which restitution or compensation is sought, to remove such restrictions; and

(5) urges formerly totalitarian countries to pass and effectively implement laws that provide for restitution of, or compensation for, wrongfully expropriated property.

SEC. 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SHIMKUS, recognized Mr. SMITH of New Jersey 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?

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

Mr. HAMILTON, objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

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

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶110.14 GABON ELECTIONS

Mr. GILMAN moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following resolution (H. Res. 518); as amended:

Whereas Gabon is a heavily forested and oil-rich country on central Africa's west coast;

Whereas Gabon gained independence from France in 1960;

Whereas the Government of Gabon is involved in ongoing efforts to mediate regional conflicts;

Whereas Gabon is scheduled to hold national elections in December 1998 for the purpose of electing a President;

Whereas Gabon was subject to single-party rule until 1990;

Whereas the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) and the Africa America Institute (AAI) served as observers during the organization of the 1993 Presidential and legislative elections in Gabon and found widespread electoral irregularities;

Whereas the Government of Gabon is a signatory to the "Paris Accords" of 1994, approved by national referendum in July 1995, which provides for a state of law guaran-

teeing basic individual freedoms and the organization of free and fair elections under a new independent national election commission;

Whereas the people of Gabon have demonstrated their support for the democratic process through the formation of numerous political parties since 1990 and their strong participation in prior elections; and

Whereas it is in the interest of the United States to promote political and economic freedom in Africa and throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes and commends the Government of Gabon's ongoing efforts to resolve central African conflicts;

(2) recognizes and commends those Gabonese who have demonstrated their love for free and fair elections;

(3) commends the Gabonese Government for inviting IFES to perform a pre-election assessment study;

(4) calls on the Gabonese Government—
(A) to take further measures to help ensure a credible election and to ensure that the election commission remains independent and impartial; and

(B) to further welcome IFES, the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute, or other appropriate international nongovernmental organizations to aid the organization and oversight of, the December 1998 Presidential election in Gabon, in an effort to ensure that these elections in Gabon are free and fair;

(5) urges the Government of Gabon to take all necessary and lawful steps toward conducting free and fair elections;

(6) calls on the international community to join the United States in offering their assistance toward conducting free and fair elections in Gabon;

(7) urges the United States Government to continue to provide support directly and through appropriate nongovernmental organizations to aid the organization of free and fair elections in Gabon; and

(8) urges the United States Government and the international community to continue to encourage the Government of Gabon to ensure a lasting and committed transition to democracy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. SHIMKUS, recognized Mr. GILMAN and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, 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. SHIMKUS, announced that two-thirds of the Members present had voted in the affirmative.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, objected to the vote on the ground that a quorum was not present and not voting.

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

The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.

¶110.15 FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2807. An Act to amend the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 to prohibit the sale, importation, and exportation of products labeled as containing substances derived from rhinoceros or tiger.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1260) "An Act to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to limit the conduct of securities class actions under State law, and for other purposes."

¶110.16 INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORIZATION

Mrs. MORELLA moved to suspend the rules and agree to the following amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1274) to authorize appropriations for the National Institute of Standards and Technology for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Technology Administration Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM CENTER EXTENSION.

Section 25(c)(5) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k(c)(5)) is amended by striking "which are designed" and all that follows through "operation of a Center." and inserting in lieu thereof "After the sixth year, a Center may receive additional financial support under this section if it has received a positive evaluation through an independent review, under procedures established by the Institute. Such an independent review shall be required at least every two years after the sixth year of operation. Funding received for a fiscal year under this section after the sixth year of operation shall not exceed one third of the capital and annual operating and maintenance costs of the Center under the program."

SEC. 3. MALCOLM BALDRIGE QUALITY AWARD.

(a) ADDITIONAL AWARDS.—Section 17(c)(3) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3711a(c)(3)) is amended by inserting "unless the Secretary determines that a third award is merited and can be given at no additional cost to the Federal Government" after "in any year".

(b) CATEGORIES.—Section 17(c)(1) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3711a(c)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(D) Health care providers.

"(E) Education providers."

SEC. 4. NOTICE.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—Section 31 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act is redesignated as section 32.

(b) NOTICE.—The National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 271 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 30 the following new section:

"NOTICE

"SEC. 31. (a) NOTICE OF REPROGRAMMING.—If any funds authorized for carrying out this Act are subject to a reprogramming action that requires notice to be provided to the Appropriations Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate, notice of such action shall concurrently be provided to the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

"(b) NOTICE OF REORGANIZATION.—

"(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall provide notice to the Committees on Science and