

SEC. 702. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF ADVOCACY.

Section 202 of Public Law 94-305 (15 U.S.C. 634b) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (10), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (11), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(12) evaluate the efforts of each department and agency of the United States, and of private industry, to assist small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, as defined in section 3(q) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(q)), and small business concerns owned and controlled by serviced-disabled veterans, as defined in such section 3(q), and to provide statistical information on the utilization of such programs by such small business concerns, and to make appropriate recommendations to the Administrator of the Small Business Administration and to the Congress in order to promote the establishment and growth of those small business concerns.”.

SEC. 703. STUDY OF FIXED-ASSET SMALL BUSINESS LOANS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on whether there would exist any additional risk or cost to the United States if—

(1) up to 10 percent of the loans guaranteed under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, were made for the acquisition or construction of fixed assets used in a trade or business rather than for the construction or purchase of residential buildings; and

(2) such loans for acquisition or construction of fixed assets were for a term of not more than 10 years and the terms regarding eligibility, loan limits, interest, fees, and down payment were the same as for other loans guaranteed under such chapter.

(b) *REPORT.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall transmit the report described in subsection (a) to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs and the Committees on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(2) *CONTENTS OF REPORT.*—The report required by paragraph (1) shall specifically address the following:

(A) With respect to the change in the veterans’ housing loan program contemplated under subsection (a):

(i) The increase or decrease in administrative costs to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(ii) The increase or decrease in the degree of exposure of the United States as the guarantor of the loans.

(iii) The increase or decrease in the Federal subsidy rate that would be possible.

(iv) Any increase in the interest rate or fees charged to the borrower or lender that would be required to maintain present program costs.

(B) Information regarding the delinquency rates, default rates, length of time required for recovery after default, for fixed-asset business loans, of a size and duration comparable to those contemplated under subsection (a), made available in the private market or under section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.

On motion of Mr. TALENT, said Senate amendments were agreed to.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby said Senate amendments were agreed to was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate thereof.

¶91.51 TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND MARKETING INFORMATION

On motion of Mr. FLETCHER, by unanimous consent, the bill of the Senate (S. 1543) to amend the Agricultural

Adjustment Act of 1938 to release and protect the release of tobacco production and marketing information; was taken from the Speaker’s table.

When said bill was considered, read twice, ordered to be read a third time, was read a third time by title, and passed.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby said bill was passed was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate thereof.

¶91.52 PROVIDING FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE TWO HOUSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PEASE, laid before the House the following privileged concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 51):

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Thursday, August 5, 1999, Friday, August 6, 1999, or Saturday, August 7, 1999, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Wednesday, September 8, 1999, or until such time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, August 5, 1999, Friday, August 6, 1999, or Saturday, August 7, 1999, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 8, 1999, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

When said concurrent resolution was considered and agreed to.

A motion to reconsider the vote whereby said concurrent resolution was agreed to was, by unanimous consent, laid on the table.

Ordered, That the Clerk notify the Senate thereof.

¶91.53 APPOINTMENT OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLMENTS

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

August 5, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CONSTANCE A. MORELLA or, if not available to perform this duty, the Honorable Frank R. Wolf to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through September 8, 1999.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

By unanimous consent, the appointments were approved.

¶91.54 SPEAKER, MAJORITY LEADER, AND MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS, APPOINT COMMISSIONS

On motion of Mr. FLETCHER, by unanimous consent,

Ordered, That, notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Wednesday, September 8, 1999, the Speaker, Majority Leader, and the Minority Leader be authorized to accept resignations and to make appointments to commissions, boards and committees duly authorized by law or by the House.

¶91.55 CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS DISPENSED WITH

On motion of Mr. FLETCHER, by unanimous consent,

Ordered, That business in order for consideration on Wednesday, September 8, 1999, under clause 7, rule XV, the Calendar Wednesday rule, be dispensed with.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6 (LEGISLATIVE DAY OF AUGUST 5), 1999

¶91.56 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—CENTRAL AMERICAN HAITIAN PARITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. PEASE, 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 for your immediate consideration and enactment the “Central American and Haitian Parity Act of 1999.” Also transmitted is a section-by-section analysis. This legislative proposal, which would amend the Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act of 1997 (NACARA), is part of my Administration’s comprehensive effort to support the process of democratization and stabilization now underway in Central America and Haiti and to ensure equitable treatment for migrants from these countries. The proposed bill would allow qualified nationals of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Haiti an opportunity to become lawful permanent residents of the United States. Consequently, under this bill, eligible nationals of these countries would receive treatment equivalent to that granted to the Nicaraguans and Cubans under NACARA.

Like Nicaraguans and Cubans, many Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans, and Haitians fled human rights abuses or unstable political and economic conditions in the 1980s and 1990s. Yet these latter groups received lesser treatment than that granted to Nicaraguans and Cubans by NACARA. The United States has a strong foreign policy interest in providing the same treatment to these similarly situated people. Moreover, the countries from which these migrants have come are young and fragile democracies in which the United States has played and will continue to play a very important role. The return of these migrants to these countries would place significant demands on their economic and political systems.