

particular drug used in the treatment of arthritis which would have created an equity under the Patent Code with another drug that had been given privileged treatment in an earlier piece of legislation that had passed.

My understanding is that the attempt to provide this particular drug with equity under the patent law had been tried in a previous Democratic Congress, including a number of measures, and they all failed. The assumption was, this would be an appropriate route.

I will tell the gentleman, apparently with the concurrent resolution in front of us, there was a conclusion on the Senate side that it was not the appropriate route.

Mr. STARK. Further reserving the right to object, I thank the gentleman for his explanation.

Further reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, under that reservation I would like to congratulate the distinguished gentleman from California, the subcommittee chairman of the Subcommittee on Health of the Committee on Ways and Means for his work in completing this bill.

The only reason I could possibly think of to object would be so that I could then be recorded voting in favor of it, but I will not take the time of this body except to add my congratulations and to say that I am glad this was done.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 208

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 3103), to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve portability and continuity of health insurance coverage in the group and individual markets, to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery, to promote the use of medical savings accounts, to improve access to long-term care services and coverage, to simplify the administration of health insurance, and for other purposes, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following correction:

Strike subtitle H of title II of the bill and the items corresponding to such subtitle in the table of contents of the bill in section 1(b).

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2739) to provide for a representational allowance for Members of the House of Representatives, to make technical and

conforming changes to sundry provisions of law in consequence of administrative reforms in the House of Representatives, and for other purposes, with Senate amendments thereto and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments, as follows:

Senate amendments:

Page 2, in the table of contents, strike out: "Sec. 107. Cafeteria plan provision."

Page 2, in the table of contents, strike out "108" and insert "107".

Page 2, in the table of contents, strike out "109" and insert "108".

Page 14, strike out lines 1 through 23.

Page 15, line 1, strike out "108" and insert "107".

Page 16, line 1, strike out "109" and insert "108".

Mr. THOMAS (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate amendments be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

Mr. FAZIO of California. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, and I will not object, I would like to yield to my friend, the gentleman from California [Mr. THOMAS], to describe his request.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, this is the Administrative Reform Technical Corrections Act. We passed it back in March, March 19, as a matter of fact. The Senate passed the bill June 28. They added one amendment to section 107 of the bill. The purpose of this unanimous-consent request is to agree to that Senate amendment.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, the minority has no problem with the legislation before us or any of the other four resolutions that the gentleman will present, and we would certainly not object to their adoption at this time.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPROVING REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Oversight and the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 504) approving certain regulations to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management rela-

tions with respect to employing offices and covered employees of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes, and asked for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 504

Resolved,

SECTION 1. APPROVAL OF REGULATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The regulations described in subsection (b) are hereby approved insofar as such regulations apply to employing offices and covered employees of the House of Representatives under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 and to the extent such regulations are consistent with the provisions of such Act.

(b) REGULATIONS APPROVED.—The regulations referred to in subsection (a) are the regulations issued by the Office of Compliance on July 9, 1996, under section 220(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to implement section 220 of such Act (relating to the application of chapter 71 of title 5, United States code), as published in the Congressional Record on July 11, 1996 (Volume 142, daily edition), beginning on page H7454.

SEC. 2. ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS RELATING TO HEARING OFFICERS.

The Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance shall adopt regulations (in accordance with section 304 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995) to implement the requirement that the Board refer any matter under section 200(c)(1) of such Act which relates to employing offices and covered employees of the House of Representatives to a hearing officer.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, on July 9, 1996, the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance adopted final regulations to implement the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations statutes under section 220(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act. House Resolution 504 approves the regulations applicable to the House, to the extent that such regulations are consistent with the act. The resolution further directs the Board to adopt supplemental regulations to implement the requirement in section 220(c)(1) of the act that all matters relating to Federal Labor Relations be referred to a hearing officer. Regulations relating to section 220(e) of the act have not yet been adopted by the Board.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPROVING CERTAIN REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Oversight and the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 207) approving