

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the matter just considered.

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

There was no objection.

ELECTION AS MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 120) and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

HOUSE RESOLUTION 120

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and that they are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

To the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Tim Holden of Pennsylvania; Nick Lampson of Texas.

To the Committee on Science: Ellen Tauscher of California.

To the Committee on International Relations: James Davis of Florida.

To the Committee on National Security: Ciro Rodriguez of Texas.

To the Committee on Resources: Lloyd Doggett of Texas.

To the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Harold Ford of Tennessee.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENDING ORDER OF THE HOUSE OF FEBRUARY 12, 1997 THROUGH APRIL 23, 1997

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the order of the House of February 12, 1997, be extended through April 23, 1997.

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

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1997

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at 3 p.m. on Monday next.

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

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT FROM MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1997, TO WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1997

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House ad-

journs on Monday, April 21, 1997, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

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SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

TREMENDOUS STRIDES AT HUGHES DANBURY OPTICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. MALONEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great admiration and gratitude for the tremendous strides that have been made in the last 4 decades by the people of Hughes Danbury Optical Systems, Inc. Hughes Optical is not only a long-time employer in Connecticut's Fifth District, they have made enormous contributions toward our Nation's pioneering efforts in space. Their technological leadership has resulted in advanced instruments that have enabled scientists around the world to probe the universe and gain a better understanding of our cosmological origins.

Most recently, Hughes developed and manufactured both the optical telescope assembly and the fine guidance sensors for NASA's Hubble space telescope. They have been a critical team member in the successful daily operations of this space observatory and the on-orbit servicing missions that will keep Hubble healthy and productive for years to come. In fact, one instrument, the first of Hubble's to be recycled, has been returned to Danbury this month for its 1-billion-mile maintenance work.

In operation for nearly 7 years and having orbited our globe over 37,000 times, this fine guidance sensor will be refurbished and upgraded by the skilled engineers and technicians at Hughes Danbury Optical. It will then be returned to Hubble in 1999 to carry out the final leg of the space telescope's planned 15-year mission.

In addition, we can confidently look forward to further achievements in science when NASA's advanced X-ray astrophysics facility, a companion observatory to the Hubble, is launched later this decade, also carrying optics manufactured by this dedicated group at Hughes Danbury Optical Systems.

I salute all of Hughes' talented and dedicated people for giving us the ability to confidently enter the new high-tech millennium ahead. Their cutting edge contributions have played an irreplaceable role in making our Nation the leader in both the discovery of our universe and in the development of our technological achievements.

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN SHOULD NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GEKAS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, the budget negotiations, by some accounts, are not getting very close to agreement. This brings up again, and I say again advisedly, the prospect of a shutdown of Government. It is not too early to start thinking about that, even though we have not finished the month of April. But because of the nature of the budget process, it is something that can be in our futures, unfortunately.

Everybody knows by now that since 1989, for four or five Congresses since then, or whatever that number is, I have been proposing legislation that would prevent a Government shutdown, and it works on a simple formula: At the end of the budget period of September 30, for instance, if no new budget has been negotiated between the President and the Congress, then automatically, by way of instant replay, as I am fond to say, the next day, the dawn of the new fiscal year, would bring about last year's numbers for a period of time under a continuing resolution until a budget can be met. This means, upon passage of this type of legislation, we will never face a shutdown again. That was a horrible aspect of the last Congress when we had to explain to the American people how it was that the Government shut down.

I myself believe that the President failed in his responsibilities there, because if he had signed the appropriations in the first place, the shutdown would not have occurred. Others blame the Republican Congress for proposing measures that the President found necessary to veto. So, who is to blame? That blame game can be played all year long, and we would never get the business of the Congress accomplished. My legislation would ensure that no shutdown would occur.

Now, where are we? Here in 1997, we are approaching the period of time when we will be dealing with the supplemental appropriations. We have good information to the effect that on the Senate side, Senators MCCAIN and LOTT, HUTCHINSON, STEVENS, and others