mortgage, now we have refinanced it to less than a 15-year mortgage. We are going to pay it off a lot quicker under our balanced budget. We promote tax fairness for families and children and seniors and farmers and small businesspeople. And we eliminate the marriage tax penalty. We wiped out the Social Security earnings penalty. That will help millions of families like the Hallihans. That is again why we want to eliminate that marriage tax penalty so that Shad and Michelle can keep that $1,400 and spend it back home in Joliet on their family's needs. When we think about it, $1,400, they have a new baby, that is almost 4,000 diapers that the Hallihans could have spent back in Joliet, Illinois. That is probably a year's worth that they could have used to take care of their child. We strengthen America's defense. We also strengthen support for education and science.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have made a lot of progress, balancing the budget, cutting taxes for the middle class, reforming our welfare system, paying down the national debt, stopping the raid on Social Security. Those are great achievements. I am proud of that. This year we are going to continue that effort, our effort to strengthen Social Security and Medicare to help our local schools, to bring fairness to the tax code and to pay off that credit card by paying down the national debt.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. STARK (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of illness.

Mr. BLILEY (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today after 2 p.m. on account of attending a meeting of the board of regents of the University of Virginia.

Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today after 6:45 p.m. on account of official business.

Mr. COOKSEY (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today after 5 p.m. on account of his mother's illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KLECZKA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BAIRD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAYNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WAXMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WELLER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELDON of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS REFERRED

Joint resolutions of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S.J. Res. 40. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Alan G. Spoon as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

S.J. Res. 41. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Sheila E. Widnall as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

S.J. Res. 42. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Manuel L. Ibanez as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1658. An act to provide a more just and uniform procedure for Federal civil forfeitures, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled joint resolution of the Senate of the following title:

S.J. Res. 43. A joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President of the United States should encourage free and fair elections and respect for democracy in Peru.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 303, 106th Congress, and as the designee of the majority leader, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TANCREDO). Pursuant to the provisions of House Concurrent Resolution 303, 106th Congress, the House stands adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2000, for morning hour debates.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 303, the House adjourned until Tuesday, May 2, 2000, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7106. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule— Termination of Designation of the State of Minnesota with Respect to the Inspection of Poultry and Poultry Products [Docket No. 99–059DF] received February 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7107. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Zinc Phosphide; Extension/Amendment of Tolerance for Emergency Exemptions [OPP–300975; FRL–6489–8] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received February 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7108. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Furilazole; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerance [OPP–300968; FRL–6490–3] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received February 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7109. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Acrylic Graft Copolymer, Polyester Block Copolymer and Polyester Random Copolymer; Tolerance Exemption [OPP–300970; FRL–6490–7] (RIN: 2070–AB78) received February 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7110. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense, transmitting the Annual Report of the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7111. A letter from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Information Collection Approval; Technical Amendment to the Affordable Housing Program Rule [No. 2000–05] (RIN: 3069–AA93) received February 11, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7112. A letter from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Information Collection Approval; Technical Amendment to Community Support Requirements Rule [No. 2000–04] (RIN: 3069–AA95) received February 11, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7113. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Organization and Operations of Federal Credit Unions; Statutory Lien—received February 17, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7114. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Supervisory Committee Audits and Verifications—received February 17, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7115. A letter from the Chairperson, National Council On Disability, transmitting a report entitled, ''Back to School on Civil Rights: Advancing the Federal Commitment to Leave No Child Behind''; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

7116. A letter from the Secretary of Education, transmitting the Twenty-first Annual Report on the Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.