

imagine, because we all use the telephone. We use it to keep in touch with our loved ones; we use it constantly in our businesses. Everyone uses the telephone. And in a real sense, when you talk about taxes being progressive or regressive, this is the most regressive tax that I can possibly imagine. Everybody pays it. The poorest of Americans who use the telephone pay a higher percentage of taxes with telephone taxes than they do in any other form.

So this House really has done America a great favor. I am proud to tell you that it was in 1998 that the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DUNN) and I filed the first bill to repeal the Spanish American 3 percent telephone tax. It has taken a few years, but this House today agreed with us. We are delighted in fact that the House has now sent to the Senate a bill to end this 100-year-old Spanish American War tax. I want you to know the Spanish can breathe easy tonight. The war is over. We have ended collecting a tax that ran that war. We should be very proud in fact that we are finally taking the right path in making both telephone and Internet service more affordable for people and getting rid of some of this heavy burden of excessive and regressive taxation on the folks in America who use the telephone.

We have only just begun. As we go through the process of trying to make sure that the Internet is free and accessible for more and more people, free of these heavy taxation burdens, our committee and the Committee on Ways and Means will continue to see whether or not we can hopefully give Americans even more relief from taxation. In that regard, Mr. Speaker, our efforts will continue. We are going to look seriously at possibly putting some kind of limitation on the FCC's ability to constantly raise taxes', and one day just hopefully one day we will honor and respect free speech in America the way our forefathers intended.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 336. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

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 Senate to the bill (H.R. 2559) "An Act to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers by providing greater access to more affordable risk management tools and improved protection from production and income loss, to improve the efficiency and integrity of the Federal crop insurance program, and for other purposes."

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MINGE (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of medical reasons.

Mr. WEINER (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for before 1:00 p.m. May 24 and today on account of personal business.

Mr. BATEMAN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. MCINNIS (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of his daughter's high school graduation.

#### 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 Mrs. CAPPS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. CAPPS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RUSH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. UNDERWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mrs. BIGGERT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TAUZIN, for 5 minutes, today.

#### SENATE BILL AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A bill and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 484. An act to provide for the granting of refugee status in the United States to nationals of certain foreign countries in which American Vietnam War POW/MIAs or American Korean War POW/MIAs may be present, if those nationals assist in the return to the United States of those POW/MIAs alive; to the Committee on the Judiciary in addition to the Committee on International Relations for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. Con. Res. 110. Concurrent resolution congratulating the Republic of Latvia on the tenth anniversary of the reestablishment of its independence from the rule of the former Soviet Union; to the Committee on International Relations.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 336,

106th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 336, 106th Congress, the House stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 6, 2000, for morning hour debates.

Thereupon (at 5 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 336, the House adjourned until Tuesday, June 6, 2000, at 10:30 a.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:

7840. A letter from the Senior Banking Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Departmental Offices, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Financial Subsidiaries (RIN: 1505-AA77) received March 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7841. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the 1999 Annual Report, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3305; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

7842. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Acquisition Regulation: Financial Management Clauses for Management and Operating (M&O) Contracts (RIN: 1991-AB02) received April 28, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7843. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Acquisition Letter; Small Business Programs—received April 28, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7844. A letter from the Deputy Executive Secretary, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Revision of the Requirements Applicable to Albumin (Human), Plasma Protein Fraction (Human), and Immune Globulin (Human) [Docket No. 98N-0608] received April 18, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7845. A letter from the Deputy Executive Secretary, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Quality Mammography Standards [Docket No. 99N-1502] received April 18, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7846. A letter from the Deputy Executive Secretary, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Service Fellowships (RIN: 0991-AA96) received April 18, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7847. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Indirect Food Additives: Adhesives and Components of Coatings and Paper and Paperboard Components [Docket No. 99F-0925] received April 18, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

7848. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control,