

Unfortunately, it is pretty clear to me that people are, in fact, looking at watering down the penalty provisions in particular, and to deal with problems, some people are saying, I have been told by one high-ranking member of the conference committee that they are concerned that there is not a problem with 4-H clubs dealing with raising these chickens that the 4-H'ers produce.

Well, first of all, to prosecute a cock-fighting case, law enforcement officers must have evidence of the illegal activity. The birds intended to be used in these cock fights are identifiable by several indicators, including the special structures that they are kept in, the fighting paraphernalia, the specific drugs that are provided to them to heighten the aggression and to aid the blood clotting.

The Animal Welfare Act already prohibits interstate transports for dogs for fighting purposes, and we have not had anybody come to this floor and say, well, we have these provisions in Federal law and we cannot have legitimate show-dog activities, that it is interfering with the buying, transport, and delivery of animals for purposes that do not impact animal fighting. Of course not. Reasonable people apply the laws reasonably, and this is absolutely specious.

There is a problem, however, because people will run through this loophole to continue to exploit the illegal game fighting that is happening in these States where it is illegal but it is legal to grow them, legal to train them, legal to transport them.

One of the problems is that the current penalties are 26 years old. They are not high enough to warrant prosecution of violations. What we hear from the U.S. Department of Justice and the USDA, that they have indicated that they would give more consideration if they were a felony and included higher fines and jail time.

That is what the House passed. That is what the conference committee should protect, and if we are not able to do that, Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to bring a motion to this floor to instruct the conferees to respect the rights and the will of the House and the Senate and to do what the American people want and end this cruel and barbaric practice.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BALDACCI (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of a family medical emergency.

Mr. HOLT (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of attending a funeral in the district.

Mr. RANGEL (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today after 2:00 p.m. on account of official business in the district.

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. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHOWS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. ROHRBACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RAMSTAD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ISSA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker.

H.R. 4167. An act to extend for 8 additional months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11 of the United States Code is reenacted.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, April 29, 2002, at 2 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

6386. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter providing information on a report entitled, "Support for Child Care Services and Youth Program Services"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

6387. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Administration's FY 2001 Annual Report on Initiatives to Address Management Deficiencies, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1709(v); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6388. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's report entitled, "Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences, Fiscal Year 2001," pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5848; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6389. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning compliance by the Government of Cuba with the U.S.-

Cuba Migration Accords of September 9, 1994, and May 2, 1995; to the Committee on International Relations.

6390. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the semi-annual report of the Inspector General for the 6-month period ending September 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6391. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the semi-annual report on activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(d); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6392. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Financial Report of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2001 (Financial Report); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6393. A letter from the White House Liaison, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6394. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the twenty-fifth Semiannual Report to Congress on Audit Follow-Up, covering the period from April 1, 2001 to September 30, 2001 in compliance with the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app.; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6395. A letter from the Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, Bonneville Power Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting the 2001 Annual Report of the Bonneville Power Administration, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6396. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Commercial Activities Inventory for Fiscal Year 2001; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6397. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's Commercial Activities Inventory for Fiscal Year 2001; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6398. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting a copy of the annual report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act during the calendar year 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6399. A letter from the Chairman, International Trade Commission, transmitting the semiannual report of the Office of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6400. A letter from the Assistant Administration for Human Resources and Education, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6401. A letter from the Assistant Administration for Human Resources and Education, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6402. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6403. A letter from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting the Foundation's Performance Report for FY 2001; to the Committee on Government Reform.