REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

Mr. DREIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108–795) on the resolution (H. Res. 868) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

WELDON ANTI-WOMAN PROVISION IN H.R. 4818

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include therein extraneous material.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my outrage about a dangerous antiwoman provision that is in this omnibus bill. I know that is not going to be changed, but I do want all women in America to know what is coming for them.

Let us say a woman is the unfortunate victim of a partial spontaneous abortion. Under the law that has been passed now in the United States, that woman may not go to the hospital and have that completed unless the hospital wants to do so. Presently, the law requires that a woman be taken care of; but even if a woman's life is at stake, even if she is going to die, the hospital does not have to do it.

Now, what happens if the hospital does it in defiance of what this law says? They then put into jeopardy every cent of money they bring in from the Labor-HHS bill, which would include all their State Children's Health Insurance money, all their Head Start money, all their child care development block grant money, all social services money, and perhaps all senior nutrition programs. This is really draconian when it comes to saving a woman's life.

States will not be allowed anymore to require an HMO that is participating in Medicaid to either cover abortions for a rape victim or tell them that they are eligible to get services and where to get it. What a step backwards for the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting for the RECORD an article from today's Washington Times announcing what is yet to come.

[From the Washington Times, Dec. 6, 2004]

PRO-LIFERS SET SIGHTS ON NEW CONGRESS

(By Amy Fagan)

The pro-life movement, which helped pass several initiatives in the 108th Congress, thinks Republican gains in the Senate will aid the chances for bills to enforce state parental notification laws and to alert pregnant women about fetal pain.

''There is enough of a shift that we think bills such as these two . . . have a real chance,'' said Douglas Johnson, legislative director of the National Right to Life Committee.

The Senate has been the biggest blockade to pro-life bills. Republican pickups in this year's election mean the chamber will have about three additional pro-life votes come January, Mr. Johnson said.

He said he hopes the defeat of Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, South Dakota Democrat, might make some pro-choice senators ''who marched in lock step with the abortion lobby . . . less inclined to get out on thin ice'' in blocking abortion restrictions.

Both sides of the abortion debate are anticipating a Supreme Court vacancy, particularly after deteriorating health has forced Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist to miss several sessions.

Mr. Johnson said a battle over any Supreme Court nominee would take top priority for his group.

Vicki Saporta, president of the National Abortion Federation, also said a Supreme Court vacancy would be a ''huge priority'' for her side. She promised a ''tremendous fight'' over any nominee who would ''turn back the clock'' on abortion or other rights.

Until that fight erupts, however, the pro-life lobby will focus on other legislation.

One priority, introduced as a bill for the first time in May, would require doctors to tell women seeking abortions after 20 weeks about the capacity of the fetus to feel pain and offer the option of pain-reducing drugs.

The fetal-pain issue garnered interest during a federal court case in New York, in which the government was defending the federal ban on late-term partial-birth abortions. The judge in that case said the defense presented ''credible evidence'' that a fetus feels pain.

Mr. Johnson said there is growing support for the fetal pain bill in the House, and he hopes it can pass both chambers this term.

A bill returning to the scene next session would make it a federal crime to circumvent a state's parental-notification law by transporting a pregnant teen across the state line for an abortion without parental involvement.

The measure passed the House three times but stalled in the Senate.

Miss Saporta said the fetal-pain bill is ''part of their campaign to separate the fetus from the woman.''

Although the teen-transport bill likely will be introduced in both chambers, she said, passage would ''put the most vulnerable teens at risk'' by forcing those in dangerous family situations to involve their parents in abortion decisions and by making other family members criminals if they intervene.

Connie Mackey, vice president for government affairs for the Family Research Council, said her group also will push a ban on cloning human embryos for any purpose.

The legislation stalled last session, but House and Senate sponsors plan to bring back their bills next session. ''We will be working hard'' to pass them, Mrs. Mackey said.

She said her group will fight for more federal funding for adult stem-cell research, as a more promising alternative to embryonic stem-cell research. Pro-life lawmakers also are considering proposals to regulate abortion clinics and ban or limit RU–486, a home drug treatment that induces an abortion.

Miss Saporta said she also suspects conservative lawmakers will try to ban or limit RU–486 but predicted they will fail.

''It will be somewhat easier for anti-choice forces to pass further restrictions on abortion, but they won't be successful in all of their initiatives,'' she said.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

INDEPENDENT THINKING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001, our Nation suffered the most horrible attack ever on American soil at the hands of those with a deep-seated, enduring hatred for freedom.

Since that day, every one of us has been anxious to do whatever we can to protect our Nation's security. We have made great strides in this direction over the past 3 years, and much of the bill currently being considered seeks to capitalize on the success of the policies of the Bush administration.

When 9/11 Commission Vice Chair Lee Hamilton and Commission member Slade Gorton testified before the Committee on the Judiciary, I promised that I would carefully analyze any proposal that would come before this Congress to ensure that independence and ingenuity are preserved and that any intelligence-gathering entity or entities are not susceptible to groupthink.

The creation of the National Intelligence Director in this bill is precisely the formula for groupthink.

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I absolutely believe the sharing of information is essential, but a National Intelligence Director with budget control and hiring and firing authority will create the climate for top-down groupthink. This groupthink will eliminate the competition of ideas and hinder innovation and creativity. Next time, it will not matter how faulty the information sharing, but a matter of the information not being generated or discovered to begin with. Instead of seeking to create out-of-the-box, nonlinear thinking, creative, effective intelligence organizations, this legislation is carving square pegs to fit into round holes. It is impossible not to reach the conclusion that groupthink is the inevitable result of the 9/11 Commission NID proposal.

We need to establish open channels of information-sharing between agencies, but not cripple them with top-down control. The testimony both before and by the 9/11 Commission established that there was not a single model of an intelligence culture that got it right. We must find the models we can use to create the types of agencies that can think outside the box.

Just as importantly, our national security begins at our borders. H.R. 10 included many immigration reforms that would have greatly improved the security of the United States. The conference committee either completely