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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord of all the earth, the sea and sky, in today's world, when we take to flight, it is not just in fanciful imagination or escape, nor always in mystic prayer. Physically we fly in the sky over this resourceful Nation and survey the many blessings You shower upon Your people.

We marvel at Your Creation and Your infinity beyond.

By placing ourselves in the hands of an experienced flight crew and of sophisticated aircraft, we form an uncertain community of trust and sheer abandon. We become accountable to one another for tentative security. We share a common destination and seek freedom from turbulence along the way.

Together we hope for peace in the end.

Lord, help the frequent fliers of Congress understand the parable of their flight. Lift them with the wings of inspiration and accountability to take us beyond our confinement to new heights of progress and integrity while caring for the most needy and the most frightened traveling with us. Our hope is placed in their leadership and Your power to hold us in this moment of suspension now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BISHOP of New York led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 10 one-minutes on each side.

THE AMERICAN VETERAN

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, the American veteran has fought in these conflicts: French and Indian war, War for Independence, the First Barbary War, the War of 1812, the Second Barbary War, War for Texas Independence, the War Between the States, the Indian Wars, the Spanish-American War, the Philippine-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, First World War, Russian Revolution, Spanish Civil War, the Great World War II, the Cold War, Korean War, Vietnam War, Tehran hostage rescue, Grenada, Beirut, Panama, the Gulf

War, Somalia, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, and the Iraq War.

These are wars that were fought in, fought by and fought for Americans. This land of the free is consecrated by the blood of the fallen. In many of these wars the liberty of the Nation's people was at stake. Across the massive seas of time the American veteran shall be remembered and praised, for they fought in lands they had never seen, and they fought for peoples they did not know.

These, like my dad, represent the finest the Nation has ever produced. We honor them and we thank them on Veterans Day.

DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, this so-called Deficit Reduction Act is an intellectually dishonest, cruel hoax. The Republican leadership claims they are reducing the deficit, but in reality they are actually hurting the poorest and most vulnerable in this country:

Health care for poor people, slashed by \$9.5 billion; food for poor people, decreased by over \$840 million; student loans for college students, a \$14.3 billion cut.

Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita reopened the eyes of Americans to the staggering poverty that still exists in this country, yet the Republican leadership wants to slash over \$50 billion from programs that will help our most vulnerable citizens across America. If that were not bad enough, there is a tax cut worth at least \$70 billion on its way. Combined with this upcoming tax cut, the so-called Deficit Reduction Act will actually increase the deficit by \$20 billion.

We are a much better country than this bill puts forth. If this bill passes

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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today, the Republicans will have succeeded in creating a government without a conscience. Shame on them.

Let me appeal to the moderates on the other side. Do the right thing. Don't throw away your conscience. Don't be a cheap date. Vote against this bill.

PREPARING FOR AN AVIAN (BIRD) INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

(Mr. MURPHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY. The United States must prepare for an avian flu pandemic which could potentially kill tens of thousands of people and cost tens of billions of dollars. Similar to the 1918 influenza epidemic, the avian flu is a primary cause of death where victims suffer a severe response of respiratory distress as their immune system is compromised.

Citizens should make sure they still get their annual flu shot and practice good hygiene, even though the likelihood of scenarios of flu pandemic will not occur. But Congress needs to make sure we improve vaccine distribution mechanisms, improve lines of communications and take steps to mitigate panic to make sure that there is essential communication with local media outlets.

We also must increase vaccine production and create incentives for pharmaceutical manufacturers to lower costs and promote cooperation. All this means Congress must move forward to follow the President's national strategy for the pandemic influenza.

For further information, I encourage my colleagues to visit my Web site at murphy.house.gov.

PRIORITIES

(Mr. CHANDLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, the cuts to education, health care, housing and nutrition programs that we will consider later today once again expose the real agenda of the majority.

This reconciliation package presents a simple choice, either care for the poor, the sick and the hungry, and help students attend college, or cut taxes for the wealthy and give yet another handout to the oil industry. The choice seems almost too easy, but yet again, our friends on the other side of the aisle will sacrifice the moral principle of caring for your neighbor in favor of funneling billions in tax breaks and government handouts to the most well off.

These are the priorities of the majority. Increase our debt, punish the least among us, and line the pockets of the wealthy. I urge my colleagues to oppose this misguided and immoral reconciliation package.

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS. STANLEY AND DEANNA MAYFIELD ON BEING HONORED AS DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS BY THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

(Mr. CONAWAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two of San Angelo, Texas' most dedicated and patriotic citizens, Stanley and Deanna Mayfield. On November 21, 2005, they will be honored by the Concho Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America with the Distinguished Citizen Award in recognition of their contributions to scouting and the citizens of San Angelo.

John Stanley Mayfield and Deanna Lee Gilmore Mayfield married on August 22, 1964. They moved to San Angelo after Stanley completed 5½ years of service as an Air Force F-111 pilot. Since then, they have been active volunteers in San Angelo and throughout Texas. They have dedicated their lives to the service of others and deserve to be recognized for their contributions.

In addition to volunteering as members of and on the board of directors of many charitable and community development organizations, both are active members of the First Baptist Church and have served as appointees of Governor George W. Bush, Deanna as Vice Chairman of the Texas Real Estate Commission and Stanley on the State Bar of Texas.

The proud parents of three children and seven grandchildren, their giving hearts have been inspirational to many, and they have truly led by example. I personally know of no two people more worthy, who have worked harder, donated more time or who have been as valuable to their community as Stanley and Deanna Mayfield. They serve as an inspiration to all those who are lucky enough to be around them, and I am honored to represent them in the 11th Congressional District of Texas.

THE DEFICIT REDUCTION BILL

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, when explaining budget reconciliation to the American people, perhaps the closest thing we can compare it to is balancing a checkbook. Unless, of course, we are talking about the way Congress balances its books.

On one side of the ledger, spending cuts ostensibly earmarked for rebuilding the gulf coast are in reality set aside for tax cuts, despite three consecutive record-breaking deficits and \$3 trillion in new debt.

Even after the tax cuts are in place, there won't be anything left in the other column to relieve Americans from the misery left in the wake of devastating hurricanes.

Championing tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans by punching holes in the safety net is the hallmark of this administration's failed economic policies. But it shouldn't be the way we balance our books.

While millionaires will gain another \$19,000 tax break, the typical student, already saddled with \$17,500 in debt, faces \$5,800 in new fees and higher interest rates. How can we in good conscience cut student loans after the College Board tells us this is the most expensive semester ever?

Common sense tells us: When you are in a hole, stop digging. But we are still digging, falling deeper into red ink with this budget, beyond what we and future generations of Americans can afford.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this sham deficit reduction bill.

VETERANS DAY

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is Veterans Day. On this holiday, it is certainly appropriate that we recognize the sacrifice of our brave veterans that have fought to protect our freedom in years past.

But Veterans Day also provides a good opportunity to note the progress our military is making today. Today, we are at war. Our troops are fighting in the cause of freedom. Just 3 years ago, Saddam Hussein wielded a brutal totalitarian regime over an oppressed people. Today, Saddam is in jail and Iraqis have adopted a constitution upholding the rule of law.

Our effort to train and deploy new Iraqi security forces is also progressing. As of October, over 206,000 Iraqi forces have been trained and equipped. Similar progress has been seen in Afghanistan. Each day we continue the rebuilding of these war-torn countries. As a veteran, I am proud to say our military is not about occupation; it is about freedom, our freedom and freedom around the world.

Mr. Speaker, as we take time tomorrow to remember our living veterans, let us also recognize the noteworthy accomplishments of our troops serving today and not forget the words on the Mall—"Freedom Is Not Free."

BUDGET RECONCILIATION

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will honor our Nation's veterans. But the budget reconciliation legislation that we present today will not honor our veterans, because their families will be impacted by the negative aspects of this legislation.

\$11.9 billion in cuts in Medicaid will impact the families of veterans. \$50 billion cuts in Medicaid over 10 years will

impact the families of veterans. \$14.3 billion in student loan cuts will impact the children of veterans. And those National Guard and Reservists who came home after battling in Iraq to Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Louisiana will find that \$7 billion has been cut from the most vulnerable, and their homes that have been destroyed will be impacted by this budget because there will be no money at the end to be able to provide for the restoration of their lives.

This budget reconciliation legislation will not honor our veterans. We honor them tomorrow. Why do we not honor them today? We can do better.

□ 1015

HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as the son of a World War II veteran, as a 31-year veteran of military service and the father of three sons serving today in the military, Veterans Day is particularly meaningful to my family. America exists today only because of the courage of the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States military. Generations of American soldiers have turned impossible challenges into incredible victories, and they have earned our highest respect.

As troops continue to risk their lives in the war on terrorism, we are especially inspired by the bravery of America's 25 million veterans. By risking their lives to protect our freedoms, there is a greater spread of freedom today worldwide than ever in history. We will forever remain grateful for their service.

I would like to encourage all citizens to take time on Friday to personally express their sincere appreciation to the veterans of their communities.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11 or the terrorist attacks on Jordan.

BUDGET RECONCILIATION

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin our day here by quoting from the book of Deuteronomy, the 15th chapter, the seventh verse:

"If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the Lord thy God hath giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother."

Remember this today when in the name of deficit reduction, you would vote to cut health care for poor children. Thou shalt not harden thine heart.

Those who would today cut food stamps, school breakfast and school lunch benefits for the poor, thou shalt not harden thine heart.

Those who would cut rental housing benefits for hurricane victims, there is a moral imperative about us being in this House. And we cannot just look at this as business as usual when we choose to just cut benefits for the poor and then turn around and give tax cuts for the rich.

MEDICARE

(Mr. NEUGEBAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, this year is the 40th anniversary of Medicare. Medicare has come a long way. Initially, it started off as a hospitalization policy. Later we added physician benefits and physician visits and even some tests. Now we have put the third leg of that stool on; and we are going, effective January 1, to add prescription drugs to Medicare, making Medicare now a full health care policy for our seniors.

The reason that Congress did this was because many times the physicians would prescribe prescriptions for our seniors, yet they would have to make a decision between buying food or the prescription. Congress did not think that was a good idea; and so effective January 1, seniors will have a prescription drug option. The sign-up begins next Tuesday, November 15. We encourage seniors to begin to go shopping.

I held a town hall meeting in Abilene, Texas, on Monday at the Rose Park Senior Center and encouraged our seniors to go shopping. One of the things that was so important about this new process was that we allowed seniors the ability to make their own choices and brought competition in it.

I urge our seniors to look very closely at this new great prescription drug benefit that has been provided for them.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET DOESN'T REFLECT AMERICA'S PRIORITIES

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Congress is about to slash nearly \$50 billion from investments in our children's future, in health care and education. Yet because of Republican priorities, they are going to actually add \$20 billion to the \$3 trillion in our deficit. Only in a Republican Congress.

What kind of Congress passes a budget that cuts \$9.5 billion from children's health care, affecting 6 million children, while overpaying HMOs by \$5.4 billion? What kind of Congress hands out \$16.5 billion to oil and gas companies, while cutting 40,000 children's nutrition programs and seniors from home heating assistance?

What kind of Congress cuts 330,000 children from child care assistance, while giving special tax breaks to bow and arrow manufacturers, NASCAR track owners, and logging companies?

What kind of Congress cuts \$14.5 billion from student college assistance, the largest cut ever, while cutting taxes for millionaires?

A Republican Congress, but of course. Those are the wrong priorities for America. Americans know.

Mr. Speaker, we should cut spending, but we should not do it by throwing our children under the bus. America can do better. It is time for a change.

CELEBRATING OUR VETERANS

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we celebrate Veterans Day to honor America's most courageous men and women of the past and the present. In conflicts around the world, those serving in our military protect our country and safeguard the values that Americans hold dear: safety and freedom and democracy.

The Defense Department has a program allowing a recorded phone call so that soldiers from my district serving overseas can listen to it and then contact me. The opinions of those serving our country are so very important, and I encourage all Members of Congress to participate in this program.

Veterans Day is often marked by parades. However, we in Congress must remember that the celebration of our veterans is more than just a once-a-year event. Over the past 5 years, we have increased benefits to veterans by over \$20 billion, from the GI Bill to VA home loan guarantees to benefits for disabled veterans, widows, and dependents.

However, dollars and cents cannot measure the sacrifice of our soldiers. We enjoy our freedoms today because of what they do every day of every year. To those who have served, a grateful Nation says thank you.

REPUBLICANS STIFLE OPEN AND MEANINGFUL DEBATE ON BUDGET RECONCILIATION

(Mr. COSTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, having served in the California State legislature for 24 years, half of which was spent in a leadership role, I know how to engage in a bipartisan process. This budget reconciliation bill is not bipartisan.

Rather than provide the House with an opportunity to engage in a serious and meaningful budget discussion, we are left with this take-it-or-leave-it package that, if passed, will increase our budget deficit nearly \$20 billion.

Rather than accept an offer by the Blue Dogs to discuss our 12-point deficit reduction alternative, we are left

with this plan as our only option. It is a Hobson's choice, which is no choice at all.

Rather than do what our constituents expect us to do, which is discuss, debate, and have meaningful oversight and make tough policy choices, we are left with a budget reconciliation package that is nothing more than a fig leaf to cover up a host of fiscal shortcomings.

I may be new to Congress and the process, but I know this budget reconciliation package is wrongheaded and sadly lacking in transparency. I urge a "no" vote.

TIME TO REDUCE FEDERAL SPENDING

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today, this body is going to address and pass the Deficit Reduction Act. While we are doing this, the left is out in full force telling Americans that we are about to cut Medicaid.

Mr. Speaker, shame on them.

Next year, under this bill, Medicaid will grow 7 percent. That is not a cut. We are taking the rate of growth from 7.3 to 7 percent.

If the left wants to lie about it, there is not a lot that we are going to be able to do to stop them, but the American people should know that they are not being told the truth.

So when the Democrats come down here today talking about how we are hurting the poor and hurting seniors and hurting children, they are being dishonest, because they know they cannot win this argument. The American people are ready to see Federal Government spending reduced.

STANDING UP FOR AMERICA

(Mr. SCOTT of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, who is telling the truth? The Democrats are telling the truth on this. This is smoke and mirrors, and the Republicans are offering a budget reconciliation package that is definitely harmful to the American people.

We can do better, this Congress deserves to do better, and the American people are expecting us to do better.

Here is the truth: the truth is that this is not deficit reduction. It will add a total of \$16 billion to our deficit. Here are the facts: The cuts are \$54 billion. Yet there is a tax cut in here for \$70 billion. Separate it, the math is there: 54 from 70 is 16. It adds \$16 billion just in adding the tax cuts to it.

I tell my colleagues, there was a young fellow named David who came from the sheep and they told him to go back and mind his sheep, and he was to go get Goliath. David looked at him and said, Is there not a cause?

Well, I am here to tell my colleagues there is a cause for you and a cause for me, and that cause is to stand up for Americans, stand up for the American people. We can do better. Let us vote down this awful budget reconciliation.

SUPPORT THE DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT

(Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today Congress will debate the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, which includes over \$50 billion in mandatory savings. Thanks to the Republican majority in Congress, Mr. Speaker, we have today the opportunity to reduce the size of the deficit, protect the American taxpayer, lessen the burden on future generations, and also fund the priorities of the American people.

Now, there are two reasons why the extreme left will not support this historic legislation. As a matter of fact, they will and they already have, like Chicken Little, claim that the sky is falling, the sky is falling. The reason that they will not support it is because tax increases and irresponsible spending are nowhere to be found in this bill. In fact, this legislation reduces spending and has no tax increases whatsoever, something that the left cannot deal with.

A vote, Mr. Speaker, in favor of this legislation is a vote against the left-wing economic agenda of tax increases and reckless spending, and for the American people.

BLUE DOGS OFFER ALTERNATIVE 12-POINT DEFICIT REDUCTION PACKAGE THAT IS BETTER FOR AMERICA

(Mr. MATHESON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, later on today, the House is going to vote on a budget reconciliation package and, from what we are hearing, up is down and down is up.

We are supposed to be here to be lowering the deficit. I am concerned about the deficit. We should not be burdening future generations with our consumption today. Yet the package being put forth today by the majority, the package of spending cuts, but also tax cuts, is going to end up with an increase in our deficit of \$16 billion. That is not right.

Look, deficit reduction is hard to do. It requires some tough choices. The only way, in my opinion, that this Congress is going to take on those tough choices is if we put in a set of rules that force us to do it.

The Blue Dog Democrats have a 12-point plan that will put those provisions in place: a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, real pay-as-you-go rules. Those are just two

of the 12 provisions that would require this Congress to come together and make those very tough decisions; and they will be tough, let us not deny it.

Mr. Speaker, if we want to show fiscal responsibility, if we want to do right by future generations, we will come together in a bipartisan way. That is not what is happening today. It is very unfortunate.

I encourage my colleagues to vote down this package today.

□ 1030

HONORING OUR VETERANS

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, the Good Book tells us if you owe debts, pay debts. If honor, then honor. If respect, then respect. As Washington, D.C., begins today to embark on a healthy debate over the future course of the Federal budget, I rise in the quiet of this morning to pay a debt of gratitude to those that will be remembered in ceremonies and parades wearing moth-balled uniforms and gray hair across the land as Veterans Day is remembered and celebrated.

Memorial Day in the spring is that day we remember those who did not come home; Veterans Day is the day that we remember those who did. I will never forget a close friend of my late father, who said years after he returned from having served in combat in Korea, "I don't think your dad ever got over the guilt of coming home."

My dad said good-bye forever to many close friends who served alongside of him in Korea, but he carried a special weight, having fired shots in anger for the United States in uniform. Let us remember our veterans and celebrate them across the land tomorrow.

BUDGET RECONCILIATION

(Ms. MATSUI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, a budget is about planning. It is about the future. And for me the idea of the future is intertwined with my granddaughter, Anna, who is 2 years old. We all have someone like that, someone for whom we want to build a better tomorrow, but to do so we must address the real challenges our Nation faces, including an ever-increasing debt.

Unfortunately, the package that we are dealing with today passes more debt on to future generations, my Anna and your Anna, while making it more difficult for working families to achieve the American dream. This does not reflect the values and priorities of our constituents.

The American people want courage, leadership and shared sacrifice and we are giving them a bill that is short-

sighted, narrowly targeted and driven by ideology instead of good policy. We could really do better.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 32 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1620

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) at 4 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.

VACATING ORDERING OF YEAS AND NAYS ON H.R. 1953 AND H.R. 3665

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the House vacate the ordering of the yeas and nays on the motions to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1953 and H.R. 3665 to the end that the Chair may put the question on each motion de novo.

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

There was no objection.

SAN FRANCISCO OLD MINT COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mrs. KELLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1953, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VETERANS HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3665, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to provide adaptive housing assistance to disabled veterans residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member, to make certain improvements in veterans employment assistance programs, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1065, UNITED STATES BOXING COMMISSION ACT

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Rules Committee may meet next week to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 1065, the United States Boxing Commission Act.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 12 noon on Tuesday. Members are advised that the combined text from the committees of jurisdiction should be available for their review on the Web sites of the Energy and Commerce Committee, the Judiciary Committee, the Education and the Workforce Committee and the Rules Committee by later today.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain that their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, from the Committee on International Relations, submitted an adverse privileged report (Rept. No. 109-291) on the resolution (H. Res. 505) requesting the President of the United States and directing the Secretary of State to provide to the House of Representatives certain documents in their possession relating to the White House Iraq group, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my friend from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the acting majority leader, for the pur-

poses of informing us of the schedule for the week to come.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Maryland for yielding and would say that the House will convene on Tuesday at 10:30 p.m. for morning hour and 12 noon for legislative business. We will consider several measures under suspension of the rules. A final list of those bills will be sent to Members' offices by the end of the week. Any votes called on these measures will be rolled until 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

For Wednesday and the balance of the week, the House will consider additional legislation under suspension of the rules, as well as two measures under a rule, H.R. 1065, the United States Boxing Commission Act, and we anticipate either the budget or the tax reconciliation package on the floor next week.

We also anticipate that the House will consider up to four additional appropriations conference reports as those reports become available. We have every reason to believe that those could all be available next week, and if they are, all of the appropriations bills will be passed individually and, with the exception of the defense and homeland security bills, the collection of the others, individually and under last year's spending limit.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information.

I also want to reiterate what I understand has been the change in schedule for all of our Members to note that we will not be meeting on Monday, but Tuesday will be our day. I thank the gentleman for that information.

Which appropriation bills do you expect to come on the floor next week?

Mr. BLUNT. Well, there are four bills remaining, and we think any and all of those bills could be here next week. We have already sent the previous eight bills to the President's desk, and so we have the remaining bills, all of which are likely to be done by the end of next week.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. Do you anticipate a motion to go to conference on the DOD appropriations bill next week?

Mr. BLUNT. I would expect to have that conference motion next week.

Mr. HOYER. Do you know how early in the week that might be? Obviously, as you know, there is a very important motion to instruct which would be in order at that time. Many of our Members are concerned about that. Would you know when possibly that might be done? I yield to my friend.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding to me. I do not know exactly when in the week we would get to that, but I am hopeful that enough staff work and other progress has been made on that bill that it could be on the floor next week. If it is on the floor next week, we obviously would have to go to the official conference sometime midweek.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman. The current CR, as you know, runs out

on Friday. First of all, presumably, we anticipate another CR coming. I am sure we have to have another CR at least for some agencies. How long do you think that CR would run? I yield to my friend.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend again for yielding. We are continuing to consult with the Senate on that. Of course, as a senior appropriator, as you well know, as we work the appropriations bills out, the nature of that CR changes. Ideally, we would not have to have a CR because it would be clear that we would have all the bills passed by Friday. If not, we would have to consult with the Senate, see how long they are willing to have a CR or how long we think is in the best interest of the process, but the appropriations work has gone well and I would not see any being extended for a significant period of time.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information.

The budget reconciliation bill, we did not take it up today and the mandatory spending cuts bill today. When might we consider that?

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend again for yielding, and we are continuing to work on that bill. We have asked our budget chairman to take one final look at it. We have not had a mandatory review of the mandatory programs in terms of looking at their budget for almost a decade now. Frankly, what we are learning is when you have not done anything in almost 10 years, it takes a little longer to do it than you thought it would.

We hoped to have that bill on the floor today. The appropriate eagerness of Members to want to be sure and be home tomorrow for Veterans Day events and, frankly, the challenge of the last few details did not allow us to have that happen. So we have asked the budget chairman to look at those details again, and we hope to have that bill on the floor next week.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. So it is possible that that bill will be back next week?

Mr. BLUNT. It is possible. I would like to say likely. I think it is likely it will be back, and certainly, it is possible it will be back next week.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, from your announcement, the tax reconciliation bill will also be on the floor next week? I yield to my friend.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend for yielding. At this point, we are still talking to the Ways and Means chairman about his schedule of moving forward with that event. Like some of our other chairmen, he is also involved in the mandatory spending reconciliation, and we will be talking to him about his view of how he manages those two conflicting things going on and whether we can have them both going on at the same time or not.

□ 1630

Mr. HOYER. I thank my colleague for that information. Reclaiming my

time, the pension bill, as the gentleman knows, which had passed through the Education and the Workforce Committee, was considered by Ways and Means and marked up on Wednesday, I believe. Is it my colleague's expectation that that might be on the floor next week as well? I yield to my friend.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend for yielding. My expectation is not that we would have that on the floor next week, but that we would have that on the floor between now and the time we leave here for the end of this year.

Mr. HOYER. Let me then go to that question about when is the end. As I understood from our previous colloquies, we are going to be out Friday for at least 14 days, that would be the Thanksgiving week and the week thereafter. And then if we need to come back, am I correct that we are still looking at coming back the week of December 5? I yield to my friend.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my friend for yielding. I understand everybody has their holiday plans or wants to begin to make their holiday plans. The gentleman is correct in his observations about our past discussion here. We would not intend to be here the week of Thanksgiving or the week after Thanksgiving. We do plan to be back and do not see any reason we would not be, and every Member should anticipate being back the week of December 5.

It is possible it could take 2 weeks to complete our work for the year and that we could have some work even into the week that begins on December 12. But we definitely intend to be here the 5th and would encourage Members to plan to be here both of those weeks in case our work carries over into the week following the week of December 5. That would be the week of December 12.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his information.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2005 AND HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2005

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 6 p.m. on Monday next, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2005, for morning hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. BLUNT. 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 Missouri?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. FRANK R. WOLF TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE, TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH NOVEMBER 15, 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 10, 2005.

I hereby appoint the Honorable FRANK R. WOLF to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through November 15, 2005.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

DEMOCRATS ARE LIKE SIRENS

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to set the record straight on some of the false accusations in the debate over the majority's plan to help reform government and yield savings for American taxpayers.

Unfortunately, some Members on the other side of the aisle have decided to attack Republicans with false statements which may sound true, but which actually ring false in their reality.

In fact, the Republican plan will help save and strengthen Medicaid by reducing waste, fraud and abuse, strengthen and simplify the student loan process, reduce our dependence on Middle Eastern oil, restrict illegal immigrant access to food stamps and Medicaid, and reduce the deficit by \$50 billion.

The Democrats remind me of the sirens in Greek mythology. Sirens would sing beautiful songs to sailors who were unable to resist the beautiful music and would try to swim or steer their boats to the music. The problem, Mr. Speaker, is that the sirens actually lived on islands of sharp rocks that sank the sailors' boats or stranded the sailors for eternity.

The Democrats, like sirens, are trying to strand the American public on an island of myth.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

IRAQ AND VETERANS DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, the irony could not be thicker or, for that matter, sweeter. Today, the day before Veterans Day, the Republican leadership failed to gather the necessary votes to pass a shameful budget reconciliation bill that will, among other things, decrease funding for veterans. Somewhere Mr. DELAY should be left to wonder how the callously efficient arm-twisting regime that he installed in the House has crumbled so quickly.

The sheer audacity of trying to pass a budget reconciliation bill that provides more tax breaks to the wealthy at the expense of important social-net programs for the poor is unbelievable. The programs slated to be cut include health care for veterans, Medicaid, student loans, and child support enforcement.

The idea that America's Republican leaders would slash funding for veterans the day before they should be honoring them would be even more appalling than it already is if it were not so commonplace. In fact, this pattern has repeated itself throughout President Bush's tenure in office.

The U.S. invasion of Iraq in March 2003 coincided with the sharp decrease in veterans health care and other benefits for those who have bravely served in our Nation's military. The backlog at veterans hospitals had never been greater than when the United States went to war in Iraq. Now, with more than half a million soldiers having served in Iraq, the burden on the VA will only increase.

And while the U.S. has spent over \$200 billion for military operations and reconstruction in Iraq over the past 2 years, during this same time period the Bush administration and the Republican Congress have repeatedly refused to provide veterans with the benefits they have earned and the benefits they deserve.

Our Nation's so-called leaders have continually refused to fix the system called "concurrent receipt," whereby veterans health benefits are deducted from their retirement benefits. This veterans tax is wrong, and it needs to be fixed. Unfortunately, the Republicans in Congress are too busy trying to pass bills that would make the rich even richer, instead of fixing real inequities in our system.

Mr. Speaker, veterans deserve our respect not only on November 11, Veterans Day, but all throughout the year. They deserve our respect, they deserve our support, and they deserve all of the benefits our government has promised them without scrimping, without exception, without escape clauses. They certainly did not offer any excuses when they enlisted in our military.

Six weeks ago, I traveled to Iraq with a small congressional delegation to learn more about the mission and the

heroic Americans carrying it out. Nothing I saw changed my mind about the wrongness of our Iraq policy. But one thing did move me: I came away from the trip absolutely awed by our soldiers. They were even more committed, more dedicated, and more courageous than I had ever imagined.

Having met and talked with them, it pains me to the core that their fate rests in the hands of leaders who have failed them time and time again. The men and women who wear the uniform deserve so much more. They deserve civilian leaders who will put their safety before their own political interests. They deserve leaders who would not send them to Iraq on false pretenses on a poorly defined mission without all the tools they need and without a plan to get them out of there; and they deserve leaders who will give them adequate medical and financial support when they come home.

For all the reasons I have mentioned today, it is time to bring our troops home from Iraq. We need to focus on healing the wounds incurred over the last 2½ years of war and administering to America's domestic priorities. If we want to truly honor our veterans on Veterans Day, the best thing we can do is prevent more veterans from being created. We could do this tomorrow, if we wanted to, by ending the war in Iraq and bringing our troops home. That would be the best gift of all.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FOXX). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. FRANKS of Arizona addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. SCHIFF addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. EMANUEL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. ENGLISH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. WYNN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. ALLEN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. MCDERMOTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. JONES of Ohio (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for November 8 on account of 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 Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. ALLEN, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. STEARNS, for 5 minutes, November 15.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, November 14, 2005, at 6 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

5133. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" final rule—Regulations Implementing Energy Policy Act of 2005; Pre-Filing Procedures for Review of LNG Terminals and Other Natural Gas Facilities [Docket No. RM05-31-000; Order No. 665] received October 28, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5134. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Cold, Cough, Allergy, Bronchodilator, and Antiasthmatic Drug Products for Over-the-Counter Human Use; Amendment of Final Monograph for Over-the-Counter Nasal Decongestant Drug Products [Docket No. 2004N-0289] (RIN: 0910-AF34) received October 25, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5135. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Medical Devices; Immunology and Microbiology Devices; Classification of AFP-L3% Immunological Test Systems [Docket No. 2005N-0341] received October 25, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5136. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Price-Anderson Act Financial Protection Regulations and Elimination of

Antitrust Reviews (RIN: 3150-AH78) received October 28, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5137. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

5138. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, a copy of Transmittal No. 12-05 which informs of an intent to sign an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the United States and India for Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation Projects, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

5139. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, a copy of Transmittal No. 13-05 which informs of an intent to sign a Project Arrangement (PA) to the Navigation Warfare Technology Demonstrator and System Prototype Projects Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United States, Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

5140. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, a copy of Transmittal No. 11-05 which informs of an intent to sign an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the United States and Australia concerning the Soldier Combat System, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

5141. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, Transmittal No. 06-16, concerning the Department of the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Spain for defense articles and services; to the Committee on International Relations.

5142. A letter from the Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, Transmittal No. 06-17, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Greece for defense articles and services; to the Committee on International Relations.

5143. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Removal of License Requirements for Exports and Reexports to India of Items Controlled Unilaterally for Nuclear Nonproliferation Reasons and Removal of Certain Indian Entities from the Entity List [Docket No. 050822227-5227-01] (RIN: A694-AD44) received September 1, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

5144. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule—Amendments to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Part 126 (Z-RIN: 1400-ZA17) received November 1, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

5145. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of Presidential Determination No. 2005-39 on Transfers of Defense Articles or Services for Libya for Chemical Weapons Destruction; to the Committee on International Relations.

5146. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of Presidential Determination No. 2005-40 on Transfers of Defense Articles or Services and Brokering Activities for Libya Relating to Disposition of Libyan-owned C-130H Aircraft; to the Committee on International Relations.

5147. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, certification regarding the proposed transfer of major defense equipment from the Government of the Netherlands (Transmittal No. RSAT-05-05); to the Committee on International Relations.

5148. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning methods employed by the Government of Cuba to comply with the United States-Cuba September 1994 "Joint Communiqué" and the treatment by the Government of Cuba of persons returned to Cuba in accordance with the United States-Cuba May 1995 "Joint Statement," together known as the Migration Accords, pursuant to Public Law 105-277; to the Committee on International Relations.

5149. A letter from the Federal Register Certifying Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Government Participation in the Automated Clearing House (RIN: 1510-AB04) received November 2, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5150. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's and the Office of Management and Budget's intention to jointly file final regulations for the National Security Personnel System (NSPS), as authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5151. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5152. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5153. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5154. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5155. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [AAG/A Order No. 007-2005] received September 1, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5156. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting a report on the Annual Inventory of Commercial and Inherently Governmental Activities for 2005, in accordance with Section 2 of the Federal

Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5157. A letter from the Director, Holocaust Memorial Museum, transmitting a strategic plan for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, as required under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5158. A letter from the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting a report entitled, "Audit of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4D for Fiscal Years 2003 Through 2005, as of March 31, 2005"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5159. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's FAIR Act Inventory for FY 2005; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5160. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Federal Employees' Retirement System; Death Benefits and Employee Refunds (RIN: 3206-AK57) received September 1, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5161. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Examining System (RIN: 3206-AK85) received August 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5162. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Excepted Service; Career and Career-Conditional Employment (RIN: 3206-AJ28) received August 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5163. A letter from the Office of Special Counsel, transmitting the Office's Fiscal Year 2005 Report on Agency Management of Commercial Activities Under the Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

5164. A letter from the Director, Selective Service System, transmitting the FY 2005 report pursuant to the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

5165. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Oil, Gas, and Sulphur Operations and Leasing in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)—Waiver of Fees (RIN: 1010-AD27) received October 27, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

5166. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Department of the Interior, transmitting a report on the results and conclusions of environmental investigations of areas of Naval Oil Shale Reserve Number 3 and an estimate of the total costs necessary to address the site's environmental conditions, pursuant to Public Law 105-85; to the Committee on Resources.

5167. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's biennial report on the Administration of the Coastal Zone Management Act by the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for fiscal years 2002 and 2003, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.; to the Committee on Resources.

5168. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Policy, Management and Budget, OFM, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Administrative Wage Garnishment (RIN: 1090-AA93) received July 28, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5169. A letter from the Rules Administrator, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Inmate Fees for Health Care Services [BOP-1111-F] (RIN: 1120-AB11) received August 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5170. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Oswego Harbor Fest Fireworks, Lake Ontario, Oswego, NY [CGD09-05-100] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 8, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5171. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Rohrbach's Ontario Regatta, Hamlin Beach State Park, Monroe County, NY [CGD09-05-101] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 8, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5172. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Camp Rilea Offshore Small Arms Firing Range; Warrenton, Oregon [CGD13-05-030] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received September 8, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5173. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety and Security Zones; Liquefied Hazardous Gas Vessel, Liquefied Hazardous Gas Facility and Designated Vessel Transits, New York Marine Inspection Zone and Captain of the Port Zone [CGD01-05-072] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 8, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5174. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone; Sisters Creek, Jacksonville, FL [COTP Jacksonville 05-092] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 8, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5175. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone Regulations, New Tacoma Narrows Bridge Construction Project [CGD13-05-028] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received September 8, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5176. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Rulings Division, Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of the Red Hill Douglas County, OR Viticultural Area (2001R-88P) [T.D. TTB-35; Re: ATF Notices Nos. 960 and 966; TTB Notice Nos. 6 and 31] (RIN: 1513-AA39) received October 25, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5177. A letter from the Director, Regulations and Rulings Division, Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Establishment of the Dos Rios Viticultural Area (2004R-0173P) [T.D. TTB-34; Re: Notice No. 37] (RIN: 1513-AA95) received October 25, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5178. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, International

Trade Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Procedures for Conducting Five-year ("Sunset") Reviews of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders [Docket No. 050803215-5260-02] (RIN: 0625-AA69) received October 28, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5179. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, CMS, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule—Medicare Program; E-Prescribing and the Prescription Drug Program [CMS-0011-F] (RIN: 0938-AN49) received November 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

5180. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, CMS, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule—Medicare Program; Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update for Calendar Year 2006 [CMS-1301-F] (RIN: 0938-AN44) received November 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. OXLEY: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 4146. A bill to facilitate recovery from the effects of Hurricane Rita and Hurricane Wilma by providing greater flexibility for, and temporary waivers of certain requirements and fees imposed on, depository institutions, credit unions, and Federal regulatory agencies, and for other purposes (Rept. 109-282). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. House Concurrent Resolution 267. Resolution expressing the sense of the Congress upholding the Makah Tribe treaty rights: with amendments (Rept. 109-283). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 323. A bill to redesignate the Ellis Island Library on the third floor of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, located on Ellis Island in New York Harbor, as the "Bob Hope Memorial Library" (Rept. 109-284). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 679. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey a parcel of real property to Beaver County, Utah (Rept. 109-285). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1096. A bill to establish the Thomas Edison National Historical Park in the State of New Jersey as the successor to the Edison National Historic Site; with an amendment (Rept. 109-286). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1436. A bill to remove certain use restrictions on property located in Navajo County, Arizona (Rept. 109-287). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1564. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain buildings and lands of the Yakima Project, Washington, to the Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District (Rept. 109-288). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1972. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including in the National Park System certain sites in Williamson County, Tennessee, relating to the Battle of Franklin; with an amendment (Rept. 109-289). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. POMBO: Committee on Resources. H.R. 3443. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution facilities to the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (Rept. 109-290). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HYDE: Committee on International Relations. House Resolution 505. Resolution requesting the President of the United States and directing the Secretary of State to provide the House of Representatives certain documents in their possession relating to the White House Iraq Group; adversely (Rept. 109-291). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. OBEY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SABO, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 4291. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require additional disclosure to shareholders of executive compensation; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. POMBO (for himself and Mr. RAHALL):

H.R. 4292. A bill to amend Public Law 107-153 to further encourage the negotiated settlement of tribal claims; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. WAXMAN (for himself, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. STARK, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BACA, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. CLAY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KUCINICH, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. NORTON, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WYNN, Ms. SOLIS, and Mr. HOLT):

H.R. 4293. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to establish minimum requirements for nurse staffing in nursing facilities receiving payments under the Medicare or Medicaid Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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.

By Mr. PORTER:

H.R. 4294. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements to protect natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. CANNON (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, and Mr. MATHESON):

H.R. 4295. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12760 South Park Avenue in Riverton, Utah, as the "Mont and Mark Stephensen Veterans Memorial Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. SODREL (for himself, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. PENCE, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. COBLE, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. MARCHANT, Ms. FOXX, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. HOSTETTLER):

H.R. 4296. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code with respect to avoidable preferences; and to amend title 28 of the United States Code with respect to venue for proceedings to avoid preferences under section 547 of title 11 of the United States Code; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THOMAS:

H.R. 4297. A bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

H.R. 4298. A bill to clarify the effective date of the modification of treatment for retirement annuity purposes of part-time service before April 7, 1986, of certain Department of Veterans Affairs health-care professionals; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOREN:

H.R. 4299. A bill to authorize the President to present a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to the Choctaw Code Talkers in recognition of their contributions to the Nation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FERGUSON (for himself, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. GOODE, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado):

H.R. 4300. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the credit for residential energy efficient property and certain expiring provisions of the energy credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. HERSETH:

H.R. 4301. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain parcels of land acquired for the Blunt Reservoir and Pierre Canal features of the initial stage of the Oahe Unit, James Division, South Dakota, to the Commission of Schools and Public Lands and the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks of the State of South Dakota for the purpose of mitigating lost wildlife habitat, on the condition that the current preferential leaseholders shall have an option to purchase the parcels from the Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mrs. JONES of Ohio:

H.R. 4302. A bill to require, in the event of any future round of base realignments and closures, the prompt release of all military value data used by the Secretary of Defense to prepare the recommendations of the Secretary for the realignment and closure of military installations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky):

H.R. 4303. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to reauthorize and expand the New Markets Venture Capital Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MCCOTTER,

Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. CAPUANO, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 4304. A bill to designate the Republic of Korea as a program country under the visa waiver program established under section 217 of the Immigration and Nationality Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MUSGRAVE (for herself, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KLINE, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. ISSA, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. HENSARLING):

H.R. 4305. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide increased expensing for section 179 property in the Gulf Opportunity Zone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. POE (for himself, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. CULBERSON, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. PITTS, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. MARCHANT):

H.R. 4306. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to make publicly available information related to certain funding provided to nongovernmental organizations by the Department of State; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, and Mr. PEARCE):

H.R. 4307. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to annually compile data relating to unauthorized aliens who cross the borders into the United States; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. WAXMAN (for himself, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. PALLONE):

H.R. 4308. A bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce the exposure of children, workers, and consumers to toxic chemical substances; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WU:

H.R. 4309. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve services for veterans residing in rural areas; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H. Con. Res. 295. Concurrent resolution providing that any agreement relating trade and investment that is negotiated by the executive branch with other countries must comply with certain minimum standards; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NADLER:

H. Con. Res. 296. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that there is no honor in "honor killings"; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. FORD):

H. Res. 545. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on the arrest of Sanjar Umarov in Uzbekistan; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. PENCE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. PITTS, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. POE, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr.

LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. MACK, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. TANNER, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida);

H. Res. 546. A resolution condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks that occurred on November 9, 2005, in Amman, Jordan; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. PITTS, Mr. POE, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. ISSA, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. CHOCOLA, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. KLINE, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. WAMP, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. PENCE, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. MCKEON, Ms. HART, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona);

H. Res. 547. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit deplorably infringed on parental rights in *Fields v. Palmdale School District*; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. HOLT, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. STARK, Mr. MATHESON, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. WYNN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. HOYER, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. LEE, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. FALBOMAVAEGA, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. CANNON, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mrs. MALONEY);

H. Res. 548. A resolution recognizing the religious and historical significance of the festival of Diwali; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. HINCHEY (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. WAXMAN);

H. Res. 549. A resolution requesting the President of the United States provide to the House of Representatives all documents in his possession relating to his October 7, 2002, speech in Cincinnati, Ohio, and his January 28, 2003, State of the Union address; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina);

H. Res. 550. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the importance of maintaining the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum as the preeminent multilateral institution in the Asia-Pacific region; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. PENCE (for himself, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. DELAY, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr.

FLAKE, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. KLINE, Mr. CHOCOLA, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. ISSA, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. GOODE, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. PITTS, Mr. WAMP, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. CANNON, Mr. HENSARLING, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. AKIN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. BACHUS, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. HERGER, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mrs. MYRICK, Ms. FOXX, Mr. NORWOOD, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Ms. HART, and Mrs. BLACKBURN);

H. Res. 551. A resolution honoring National Review magazine on its 50th anniversary for its contribution to the national political discourse; to the Committee on Government Reform.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania introduced a bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to Richard Gresko, of Newtown, Pennsylvania, for acts of valor in the Republic of Vietnam on March 11–12, 1970, while serving as a lance corporal in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 202: Mr. ENGEL.
 H.R. 282: Mr. MCINTYRE and Mr. HALL.
 H.R. 475: Mr. CUMMINGS and Mr. ROTHMAN.
 H.R. 601: Ms. WATSON, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, and Ms. MATSUI.
 H.R. 697: Mr. CUMMINGS.
 H.R. 698: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. FORBES, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. DRAKE, and Mr. WELDON of Florida.
 H.R. 856: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
 H.R. 864: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.
 H.R. 983: Mr. SANDERS.
 H.R. 1053: Mr. PLATTS and Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 1107: Mr. HONDA.
 H.R. 1131: Mr. SERRANO.
 H.R. 1141: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. BONO, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. KINGSTON.
 H.R. 1204: Ms. MCKINNEY and Mr. CUELLAR.
 H.R. 1246: Mr. CUNNINGHAM.
 H.R. 1297: Mr. SHAYS.
 H.R. 1415: Mr. GRIJALVA.
 H.R. 1416: Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mrs. MALONEY, and Ms. DELAURO.
 H.R. 1424: Mr. OBERSTAR.
 H.R. 1498: Ms. SCHAKOVSKY, Mr. HEFLEY, and Mr. SHUSTER.
 H.R. 1518: Mr. CONYERS and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
 H.R. 1636: Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.
 H.R. 1668: Ms. SOLIS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. TIERNEY.
 H.R. 1704: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. FATTAH.
 H.R. 1898: Mr. MICA.

H.R. 1940: Ms. CARSON.
 H.R. 1951: Mrs. LOWEY and Mr. REHBERG.
 H.R. 2012: Mr. LAHOOD.
 H.R. 2059: Mr. ALLEN.
 H.R. 2089: Mr. OTTER.
 H.R. 2180: Mr. BRADY of Texas.
 H.R. 2233: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
 H.R. 2328: Mr. PICKERING and Mr. FOLEY.
 H.R. 2669: Mr. CLAY and Mr. CARDIN.
 H.R. 2671: Ms. SOLIS and Mrs. CAPPS.
 H.R. 2682: Mr. GRIJALVA.
 H.R. 2694: Mr. SALAZAR.
 H.R. 2715: Mr. DEFAZIO.
 H.R. 2717: Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. SANDERS.
 H.R. 2793: Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SHAW, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 2803: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. DUNCAN, and Ms. BERKLEY.
 H.R. 2869: Mr. DOYLE.
 H.R. 2963: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.
 H.R. 3005: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 3006: Mr. FATTAH and Mr. WEXLER.
 H.R. 3063: Mr. FATTAH and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
 H.R. 3127: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
 H.R. 3195: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. FARR.
 H.R. 3301: Mr. PENCE.
 H.R. 3312: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
 H.R. 3373: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. HINOJOSA.
 H.R. 3438: Mr. CONYERS.
 H.R. 3476: Mr. MENENDEZ.
 H.R. 3555: Mr. INSLEE.
 H.R. 3560: Mr. GRIJALVA.
 H.R. 3561: Mr. CAPUANO and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.
 H.R. 3616: Mr. FORD, Mr. DICKS, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mrs. BONO, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. ISRAEL.
 H.R. 3617: Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
 H.R. 3630: Mr. WALDEN of Oregon.
 H.R. 3639: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
 H.R. 3774: Mr. HINOJOSA.
 H.R. 3858: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. FOLEY, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
 H.R. 3883: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. HAYES, Mr. WU, Mr. REHBERG, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
 H.R. 3917: Mr. BERMAN.
 H.R. 3931: Mr. CASTLE.
 H.R. 3949: Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. RAMSTAD.
 H.R. 3954: Mr. CUMMINGS.
 H.R. 3960: Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. KLINE, and Mr. EVERETT.
 H.R. 3985: Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. REICHERT, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. REYES, Ms. CARSON, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FARR, Mr. BASS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. DAVIS of Alabama.
 H.R. 4015: Mr. SHADEGG.
 H.R. 4023: Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
 H.R. 4072: Mr. GILLMOR.
 H.R. 4082: Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky and Mr. HERGER.
 H.R. 4097: Mr. FOSSELLA.
 H.R. 4099: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CARTER, and Mr. BURGESS.
 H.R. 4126: Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 4156: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. COOPER.
 H.R. 4157: Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota.
 H.R. 4158: Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. LEE.

H.R. 4196: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 4207: Mr. CANTOR.
H.R. 4222: Mr. SIMMONS and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 4223: Ms. WATSON, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 4229: Ms. CARSON, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
H.R. 4238: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. ROYCE, and Mr. CARTER.
H.R. 4253: Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.

H.R. 4259: Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. BOYD, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. BERRY.
H.R. 4263: Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 4265: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 4267: Mr. SALAZAR.
H.J. Res. 3: Mr. BOREN.
H. Con. Res. 90: Mr. GORDON.
H. Con. Res. 231: Mrs. LOWEY.
H. Con. Res. 280: Mr. CUELLAR.
H. Con. Res. 284: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BOOZMAN,

Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. KINGSTON.
H. Con. Res. 290: Mr. BROWN of Ohio.
H. Res. 85: Mr. HAYWORTH.
H. Res. 166: Mr. DOYLE.
H. Res. 299: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
H. Res. 411: Mr. CONYERS.
H. Res. 466: Mr. KLINE.
H. Res. 477: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H. Res. 498: Mr. UPTON.
H. Res. 507: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H. Res. 517: Mr. MENENDEZ and Mr. TOWNS.
H. Res. 524: Mr. PALLONE and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.