

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

There was no objection.

□ 1530

HOUR OF MEETING ON THURSDAY,  
MAY 10, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Wednesday, May 9, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 10.

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

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO  
DECLARE A RECESS ON THURSDAY,  
MAY 10, 2007, FOR THE PURPOSE  
OF RECEIVING FORMER  
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order on Thursday, May 10, for the Speaker to declare a recess subject to the call of the Chair for the purpose of receiving in this Chamber former Members of Congress.

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

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON FRIDAY,  
MAY 11, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Thursday, May 10, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 11.

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

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR RULES  
COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF  
H.R. 1873, SMALL BUSINESS FAIR-  
NESS IN CONTRACTING ACT

(Ms. CASTOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CASTOR. Mr. Speaker, the Rules Committee is expected to meet the week of May 7 to grant a rule which may structure the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 1873, the Small Business Fairness in Contracting Act.

Members who wish to offer an amendment to this bill should submit 30 copies of the amendment and a brief description of the amendment to the Rules Committee in H-312 in the Capitol no later than 1:30 p.m. on Monday, May 7. Members are strongly advised to adhere to the amendment deadline to ensure the amendments receive consideration.

Amendments should be drafted to the bill as ordered reported by the Com-

mittee on Oversight and Government Reform. A copy of that bill is posted on the Web site of the Rules Committee.

Amendments should be drafted by legislative counsel and also should be reviewed by the Office of the Parliamentarian to be sure that the amendments comply with the rules of the House. Members are also strongly encouraged to submit their amendments to the Congressional Budget Office for analysis regarding possible PAYGO violations.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PRO-  
VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF  
S. CON. RES. 21, CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

Ms. CASTOR, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-121) on the resolution (H. Res. 370) providing for consideration of the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 21) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 and 2009 through 2012, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

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

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

ESTONIA STATUE CRISIS

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

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to defend the sovereignty and national dignity of our friend and ally, Estonia; condemn Russia's unwarranted intrusions against these free people; and affirm our commitment to America and Estonia's common cause of human freedom.

After a long, illegal and unjust Soviet occupation, Estonia now rightly and proudly stands by our side in the ranks of free nations. Nobly and selflessly, Estonia is steadfast in its defense of civilization from our barbaric enemies, and has championed the cause of human freedom throughout our world. Disturbingly, last week, this free people's very national sovereignty was threatened.

In what should come as no surprise to Americans, whose own founding generation gained their independence from an imperial power, Estonia relocated an aging statue of a Soviet-era soldier from a central location in Tallinn to the city's Garrison Cemetery. Obstinate refusal to recognize Estonia's patent right to do so, or the obvious irony in the statue's new location, Russia used this routine act of municipal administration by the City of Tallinn to engage in a coordinated attempt to interfere in Estonia's internal affairs.

Using state-controlled TV broadcasts into Estonia, the former Soviet Union used its state-controlled television broadcasts to spew propaganda into Estonia. This provocative Russian propaganda falsely claimed Estonia's relocation of the insulting Soviet statue constituted an international crisis. Russia did so to agitate and, thereby, incite the vandalism and violence which occurred in Tallinn from April 26 through 29.

Prior to these outbreaks of violence, Russian embassy officials were observed meeting with the organizers of radical pro-Russia fringe groups; and, while Russian-speaking mobs roamed Tallinn's streets, Estonia's government Web servers came under cyber attack, the cause of which was later traced to IP addresses located in Moscow and owned by the Russian presidential administration.

So, too, there is a new report Russia has conveniently discovered a need to repair its rail links entering Estonia and, as a result, is suspending oil shipments to Estonia.

Further, Russia continues to flout the Vienna Convention by allowing Russian nationalist extremists to surround and vandalize Estonia's embassy in Moscow.

Mr. Speaker, when one weighs this inexcusable incident along with Russia's recent refusal to adhere to the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty, its recent arrest of Russian democracy advocates and its refusal to honor past agreements to withdraw its military forces from countries such as Moldova, one is compelled to question a former KGB lieutenant colonel's commitment to democracy; and whether the red bear is awakening from its hibernation to once again feast upon the free peoples of Eastern Europe and the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join in a righteous defense of Estonia's sovereignty; a condemnation of Russia's belligerent intrusions into this democratic nation's internal affairs; and affirm, in the tradition of American Presidents from Harry Truman to Ronald Reagan, we will stand united against tyranny with our Estonian brothers and sisters as one free people.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL  
FUNDING

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