the chair or the ranking member. In short, the Member, the committee, the House and the public must have confidence in the professionalism, integrity, open-mindedness of the outside counsel. Referral to an outside counsel must, and I emphasize, must be considered a judgment that the matter merits further inquiry, nothing more.

The second option, that of leaving the matter unresolved, is totally unacceptable, since it reduces the Ethics Committee to the Committee on Frivolous Complaints and Rule Interpretation.

The committee is able to deal only with issues over which there is no controversy because either party can, by a 5-to-5 vote, prevent the resolution of any serious or difficult issue before it. If one side feels there is an issue that merits further inquiry and the other does not, the issue will simply die in the lap of the chair. If that happens, the chair of the committee will have destroyed the Ethics Committee by failing to lead the committee to a resolution of an issue of major importance.

The third option is reporting back to the House the committee's inability to resolve an issue either by consensus or by referral to the outside counsel. The report to the House can be made either in open session or in executive session in the House Chambers. This latter course could be followed since an ethics charge could arguably be considered a personnel matter and the Member is entitled to have it aired in secret, as the Ethics Committee operates.

In a session before the House, the committee could receive direction by the House as to whether the matters should be referred to the outside counsel or follow some other course of action, such as dismissal of all remaining charges by a vote of the House in secret session.

Being on the Ethics Committee is not a sought-after plum assignment in the House of Representatives, but it is a job that must be done. Attacks on members of the Ethics Committee by either side of the aisle must be viewed with great skepticism.

Recently, on July 27, some of my colleagues put out a Dear Colleague letter in which they said, Over the past two years a systematic and coordinated effort has been undertaken to impugn the integrity of Speaker GINGRICH.

In fairness to the Speaker and with respect to the ethics process, they suggest that I recuse myself from this process.

These recent attacks on me are simply attempts by zealous and uninformed Members of the House to destroy the Ethics Committee before it completes its work on unresolved matters.

□ 2230

This kind of misguided activity will accomplish nothing but damage to the reputation of every Member of the House.

I am really quite honored that after a thorough review of my office and campaign and financial disclosure forms, those who seek to destroy the committee could come up with so little in their vain attempt to discredit the committee. I am here tonight to state that the House should have a report from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on matters unresolved before it, so that the House can further instruct the committee on how to proceed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. YOUNG of Florida (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and for the balance of the week, on account of medical reasons.

Ms. SLAUGHTER (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of personal business.

Mrs. LINCOLN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. HALL of Ohio (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of a death in the family.

Mr. MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and Wednesday, July 17, on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

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

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FARR of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WISE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. HANSEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes each day, today and on July 17 and 18.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today and on July 17.

Mr. SHADEGG, for 5 minutes, on July 23.

Mr. RIGGS, for 5 minutes, today and on July 17 and 18.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, on July 17.

Mr. DORNAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. HAMILTON.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. SERRANO.

Ms. HARMAN.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

Mr. VOLKMER.

Mr. TORRES.

Mr. BORSKI.

Mr. DINGELL.

Mrs. SCHROEDER.

Mr. MATSUI.

Ms. PELOSI.

Mr. FOGLIETTA.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. COX of California.

Mr. MCCOLLUM.

Mr. GILMAN.

Mr. FORBES in two instances.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

Mrs. SMITH of Washington in two instances.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

Mr. TORKILDSEN.

Mr. DORNAN.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MCDERMOTT) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG.

Mr. WHITE.

Mr. ESHOO.

Ms. DANNER.

Mr. PACKARD.

Mr. RICHARDSON.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1757. An act to amend the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act to extend the act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

OMISSION FROM THE RECORD

The following is a reprint of remarks in their entirety, both printed and omitted from the RECORD of Thursday, July 11, 1996, at Page H7447;

□ 0145

Women could not own property. There could not be marriage between the races. Many things change over time, Mr. Chairman. This, too, is going to change.

I would like to pay tribute, special personal tribute to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LEWIS], to Dr. King, to all those of both parties and no parties. There was nothing partisan about that movement; there is and ought never to be anything partisan about this, the final chapter in the history of the civil rights of this country.

I wish I could remember, I used to know the entirety of that ''I have a Dream'' speech, but we will rise up and live out the full meaning of our Creator. It may not be this year and it certainly will not be this Congress, but it

will happen. As I said earlier, we can embrace that change and welcome it, or we can resist it, but there is nothing on God's Earth that we can do to stop it.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. STUDDS. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Chairman, I thank my friend for yielding to me.

We are in a great debate. I would hope that people reading the CONRESSIONAL RECORD, watching this debate, would compare the tone, the sensitivity, and the reaching out of my friend's words, and then read the earlier words of the gentleman from Oklahoma, the words which were denunciatory and denigratory of the gentleman from Massachusetts and myself, and I would hope that the people would compare the spirit of the approach, compare the attitude toward others, compare the way in which things are debated.

I would say, as someone who has been included in this denunciatory rhetoric, that I would be very satisfied to have people informing their judgment listen to the words uttered by the gentleman from Oklahoma, and listen to the words of my friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts. I think we are helping people form a basis.

This notion that a loving relationship between two people of the same sex threatens relationships between two people of the opposite sex, that is what denigrates heterosexual marriage. The argument that we have denigrated marriage or the institution of marriage or any other formulation says that two people loving each other somehow threatens heterosexual marriage. That is what denigrates heterosexual marriage. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, to close for our side, I yield my remaining time to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. STUDDS], my friend and colleague.

(Mr. STUDDS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STUDDS. Mr. Chairman, somebody may wonder why I or my colleague from Massachusetts [Mr. FRANK] have not taken greater personal umbrage at some of the remarks here. I was thinking a moment ago that there might even be grounds to request that someone's words be taken down because my relationship, that of the gentleman from Massachusetts and, I suspect, others in the House, was referred to, among other things, I believe, as perverse. Surely if we had used those terms in talking about anyone else around here, we would have been sat down in one heck of a hurry.

I am not taking this personally, because I happen to be able, I hope, to put this in some context. I would ask those, anyone listening to this debate this hour of the morning, to listen carefully to the quality and the tone of the words over here and the quality of the tone of the words over here. I would also ask people to wonder how in God's name could a question like this be divided along partisan lines. There is nothing inherently partisan that I know of about sexual orientation. I do not believe that there is some kind of a misdivision of this question between the aisles, and yet there is a strange imbalance here in the debate and the tone and quality of the debate.

I want to salute some of the folks who have spoken over here, the distinguished gentleman from Georgia. We have talked about this before. I marched, although he did not know it at the time, with him in 1963 in the city with Dr. King. I was about as far from Dr. King as I am from the gentleman from Georgia when he delivered that extraordinary speech.

Two years later I marched, although the gentleman did not know it, behind him from Selma to Montgomery. A few years after that, when it was the first march for gay and lesbian rights in Washington in 1979, I was a Member of Congress too damn frightened to march for my own civil rights. Actually, I changed my jogging path so that I could come within view of the march. I thought that was very brave of me at the time.

But what I know is, because I had heard people like the gentleman from Georgia and because I am of the generation, and there were many, who were inspired by Dr. King is that this is, as someone has said, the last unfinished chapter in the history of civil rights in this country, and I know how it is going to come out. I do not know if I am going to live to see the ending, but I know what the ending is going to be. There is, as the gentleman said before me change, there has always been change.

As I observed earlier, the men who wrote the Constitution, to which we all swear our oath here, many of them owned slaves. Slavery was referred to specifically in the Constitution. People of color were property when this country was founded.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 17, 1996, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4137. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Raisins Produced From Grapes Grown in California; Final Free and Reserve Percentages for the 1995–96 Crop Year for Natural (sun-dried) Seedless, Zante Currant, and Other Seedless Raisins [Docket No. FV96–989–1FIR] received July 15, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4138. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Irish Potatoes Grown in Colorado; Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV96–948–2IFR] received July 15, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4139. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Goats Imported From Mexico for Immediate Slaughter; Horse Quarantine Facilities [Docket No. 91–101–2] received July 15, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4140. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Karnal Bunt; Removal of Quarantined Areas; Technical Amendment [APHIS Docket No. 96–016–8] received July 16, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4141. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the Council's report on the use of consistent financial terminology, pursuant to Public Law 103–325, section 210 (108 Stat. 2201); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4142. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the Council's report on the feasibility of establishing and maintaining an interagency data bank, pursuant to Public Law 103–325 section 341(a) (108 Stat. 2238); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4143. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of Thrift Supervision, transmitting the Office's final rule—Review of OTS Decisions [96–65] received July 15, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4144. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Thrift Supervision, transmitting the 1995 annual report on enforcement actions and initiatives, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1833; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

4145. A letter from the Administrator, Food and Consumer Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Removal of the ''Cheese Alternate Products'' specifications from the National School Lunch Program (RIN: 0584–AC04) received July 16, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

4146. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards/Consumer Information Regulations, Truck-Camper Loading (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) (RIN: 2127–AF81) received July 15, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4147. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Approval of the Carbon Monoxide Implementation Plan submitted by the State of Connecticut pursuant to Sections 186–187 and 211(m) (FRL–5523–2) received July 16, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

4148. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's