(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of which of the photogrammetric and remote sensing services related to hydrographic data acquisition or hydrographic services performed by the National Ocean Service can be performed adequately by private-sector entities.

(B) An evaluation of the relative cost-effectiveness of the Federal Government and private-sector entities in performing those services.

(C) A plan for increasing the use of contracts with private-sector entities in performing those services, with the goal of obtaining performance of 50 percent of those services through contracts with private-sector entities by fiscal year 2003.

(b) PORTS.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall report to the Congress on—

(1) the status of implementation of real-time tide and current data systems in United States ports;

(2) existing safety and efficiency needs in United States ports that could be met by increased use of those systems; and

(3) a plan for expanding those systems to meet those needs, including an estimate of the cost of implementing those systems in priority locations.

(c) MAINTAINING FEDERAL EXPERTISE IN HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall report to the Congress on a plan to ensure that Federal competence and expertise in hydrographic surveying will be maintained after the decommissioning of the 3 existing National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration hydrographic survey vessels.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report shall include—

(A) an evaluation of the seagoing capacity, personnel, and equipment necessary to maintain Federal expertise in hydrographic services;

(B) an estimated schedule for decommissioning the 3 existing survey vessels;

(C) a plan to maintain Federal expertise in hydrographic services after the decommissioning of these vessels; and

(D) an estimate of the cost of carrying out this plan.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator the following:

(1) To carry out nautical mapping and charting functions under the Act of 1947 and sections 3 and 4, except for conducting hydrographic surveys, $33,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, $34,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, $35,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, $36,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and $37,000,000 for fiscal year 2003.

(2) To conduct hydrographic surveys under section 3(a)(1), including leasing of ships, $33,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, $35,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, $37,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, $39,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and $41,000,000 for fiscal year 2003. Of these amounts, no more than $14,000,000 is authorized for any one fiscal year to operate hydrographic survey vessels owned and operated by the Administration.

(3) To carry out geodetic functions under the Act of 1947, $20,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, and $22,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003.

(4) To carry out tide and current measurement functions under the Act of 1947, $22,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2003. Of these amounts, $2,500,000 is authorized for each fiscal year to implement and operate a national quality control system for real-time tide and current data, and $7,500,000 is authorized for each fiscal year to design and install real-time tide and current data measurement systems under section 3(b)(4) (subject to section 5).

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any amendments to the bill?

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. TRAFICANT

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. TRAFICANT:

At the end of the bill, add the following new sections:

SEC. ___. COMPLIANCE WITH BUY AMERICAN ACT.

No funds authorized pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with sections 2 through 4 of the Act of March 3, 1933 (41 U.S.C. 10a–10c, popularly known as the ''Buy American Act'').

SEC. ___. SENSE OF CONGRESS; REQUIREMENT REGARDING NOTICE.

(a) PURCHASE OF AMERICAN-MADE EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS.—In the case of any equipment or products that may be authorized to be purchased with financial assistance provided under this Act, it is the sense of the Congress that entities receiving such assistance should, in expending the assistance, purchase only American-made equipment and products.

(b) NOTICE TO RECIPIENTS OF ASSISTANCE.—In providing financial assistance under this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall provide to each recipient of the assistance a notice describing the statement made in subsection (a) by the Congress.

SEC. ___. PROHIBITION OF CONTRACTS.

If it has been finally determined by a court or Federal agency that any person intentionally affixed a label bearing a ''Made in America'' inscription, or any inscription with the same meaning, to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in the United States, such person shall be ineligible to receive any contract or subcontract made with funds provided pursuant to this Act, pursuant to the debarment, suspension, and ineligibility procedures described in section 9.400 through 9.409 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

Mr. TRAFICANT (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Chairman, the amendment has been discussed in the debate earlier. I offer it here, and I would hope that all of the parts of this respectively would remain in conference, especially those that deal with fraudulent labels.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT).

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any other amendments?

If not, the question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE) having assumed the chair, Mr. GILLMOR, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3164) to describe the hydrographic services functions of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes, pursuant to the order of the House today, he reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted by the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on the amendment to the amendment in the nature of a substitute adopted by the Committee of the Whole? If not, the question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3164, the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

1–800 BUY AMERICA

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I have before this Congress a bill called ''1–800 Buy America.'' It says that any product that costs more than $250 is eligible to be listed on this national toll line for the purchase of American-made goods.

It is not paid for by the American consumers. It is paid for by the American companies who build a product made in America by American workers who pay American taxes that enure to the benefit of all in this country. $250, where a woman in Ohio could say, ''I am buying a refrigerator. 1–800 Buy America, what refrigerators are made in America?''

Now, that bill passed the House last Congress without a vote, on a voice vote, but it was not enacted into law; and it fell down in the Senate with a bunch of so-called free traders that are so dumb they could throw themselves at the ground and miss.

I am letting the Congress know that this is one of the most important pieces of legislation, where the American consumers can at least know what is made in America. They can price their products and see that, many

times, American-made products made in our country by American workers cost less than some of these now-exotic foreign imports.

Let me remind the Congress that a pair of these Chinese-made tennis shoes that sell for $150 cost 17 cents to make in China, and they are buying missile technology with our dollars.

So, with that, ''1–800 Buy America,'' I would appreciate if the Congress, while we are waiting on people to get here, would enact that legislation.

TAX LIMITATION CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 407, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 407

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 111) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with respect to tax limitations. The joint resolution shall be considered as read for amendment. The amendment specified in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) three hours of debate on the joint resolution, as amended, which shall be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary; (2) one motion to amend, if offered by the Minority Leader or his designee, which shall be considered as read and shall be separately debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent; and (3) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Rules, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all the time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 407 is a modified closed rule providing for the consideration of H.J. Res. 111, the tax limitation amendment, which seeks to amend the U.S. Constitution to require a two-thirds vote of Congress to pass legislation which increases taxes.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the first time this Congress has considered such an amendment. In fact, the rule before us is virtually identical to the rule the House adopted last year which provided for consideration of the same issue. As in 1997, the rule provides for a generous 3 hours of general debate time, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

In addition, the rule provides for the consideration of an amendment offered by the minority leader or his designee which will be debatable for 1 hour; and another opportunity for the minority to change the legislation will be available through the customary motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

My colleagues should understand that when the House votes to adopt this rule, it will automatically adopt an amendment to H.J. Res. 111, which is specified in the Committee on Rules report.

Specifically, the amendment will clarify that any bill, resolution or other legislative measure changing internal revenue laws will be subject to a two-thirds vote in both the House and the Senate and that the vote must be a recorded vote. This is the same language that the Committee on the Judiciary added to last year's bill.

Further, the amendment clarifies that any revenue increase that is a result of a tax cut would not be subject to the two-thirds vote. This is the language which the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM) was successful in adding to the tax limitation amendment last year. Its purpose is to ensure that the amendment does not inadvertently make it more difficult to reduce taxes in the future.

Again, I would reiterate to my colleagues that both this rule and the underlying bill we will consider are virtually identical to what the House voted on April 15, 1997.

Given the similarities, some of my colleagues may question the purpose of revisiting this issue. Well, what we learned in the Committee on Rules yesterday is that support for this measure is growing and no doubt will continue to grow. Sixty-eight percent of Americans support an amendment to the Constitution requiring a supermajority vote by Congress to raise taxes. Today's vote will provide another opportunity for Members to respond to their constituents and public opinion, which across party lines is clearly supportive of a tax limitation amendment.

I am sure that when Members were home in their districts over the Easter and Passover holidays they had the opportunity to meet with their constituents who were either preparing their taxes or had just paid them. I hope those meetings remind all of us just who is paying the tax bills around here and how high the Government's bills have become in terms of what the average American family can afford. The Federal tax burden alone is now nearing a record one-fifth of family income.

How can this Congress justify a tax rate that represents the largest burden Americans have been asked to bear since World War II? Combined with State and local taxes, Americans are saddled with the highest tax rate ever.

At a time when our economy is booming, unemployment is low, and we are on the verge of realizing a budget surplus, this policy is simply unacceptable. The illogic of this situation cries for reasonable measures to control our government's insatiable appetite for consuming the taxpayers' hard-earned pay. Reasonableness is what the tax limitation amendment demands of this institution.

Mr. Speaker, all the amendment before us would do is make it a little bit harder for Congress to raise taxes during times of peace. At the same time, it encourages Congress to look at other options other than taxes as a means of managing the Federal budget.

I don't think any of my colleagues would claim that there is no fat in the Federal bureaucracy to trim. But, while the special interests that benefit from government spending often have a paid voice looking out for their interests, the average American taxpayer has to rely on his or her Member of Congress as a voice for controlling spending and protecting their paychecks.

Considering that the average Federal tax burden per person has more than doubled from 1980 to 1995, I think Congress needs to do a better job of looking out for our constituents, the taxpayers, interests. Through this amendment, our constituents will have a voice that can compete with that of special interests.

And we know tax limitation amendments can be effective. They have been tried and tested by the States with very good results. In States that require a supermajority vote to raise revenue, taxes have increased more slowly, economies have grown more rapidly, and jobs have been created more quickly.

Mr. Speaker, the need for this constitutional amendment is clear. Congress has demonstrated that even in times of prosperity and peace it cannot curb its penchant to tax.

The discipline and balance imposed by our Founding Fathers was swept away by the 16th amendment which gave Congress the right to directly tax individuals' income. As a result, the power to lay and collect taxes has been so abused that families are no longer saving to buy homes and pay for their children's education. They are saving to pay the government on April 15.

It is time to restore some discipline and fairness to our system if we are to ever to give our citizens the economic freedom to pursue their dreams, whether those dreams are of homeownership, education, self-employment, a secure retirement, or a more prosperous future for their children and grandchildren.

Given what is at stake, a higher standard of consideration and consensus for higher taxes is totally appropriate and should be demanded by the American people.

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In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to support both the rule and the underlying legislation. This is a balanced rule that will enable the