

withdraw such a request. I ask for those who even may be thinking of it to not even dare. And I ask the law enforcement of this country to provide the necessary protection and support for these law enforcement officers, the U.S. Border Patrol, who are doing simply their job.

#### CLEAR ACT OF 2000

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

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Citizen Legislators Caucus and on behalf of many of my colleagues in the Caucus, I am proud to introduce today the Citizen Legislature Empowerment through Access to Resources bill, or, more simply, the CLEAR Act of 2000.

The Citizen Legislators Caucus was established to enhance the effectiveness of term-limited Members of Congress through a positive and constructive agenda. One of the priorities of our Members is working with other Members of Congress to advance legislation that encourages citizen representation and citizen involvement in Government.

Citizen legislators are the lifeblood of a representative democracy. I am honored to serve with so many honorable men and women in this body who have put aside successful careers in other areas of life to come here for a short time to represent their districts and serve their country. Doctors, lawyers, farmers, teachers, small businessmen, people from all walks of life come here for a time to help secure the future of our country and then return home to move on to other areas of service.

I believe such an attitude of service and representation is in keeping with the best examples of our Founding Fathers, as embodied most profoundly in the life of George Washington. President Washington held his positions of leadership in our country, including the presidency, as something with which he was entrusted for a limited time, not for a lifetime.

Our country is a democracy, and a well-informed citizenry is the most important asset of any democracy. Over the past few years, we have worked to put in place a number of important reforms that have changed the way Congress works, giving greater information, access, and control to the people. We have cut committee sizes, we have imposed term limits on committee chairman, and made common sense decisions, such as Congress abiding by the same laws as the rest of the country must live under.

As we move into the 21st century, the Internet provides an incredible opportunity for Congress to continue our reform agenda. We must open the door to Congress for the citizens to see more of what we do and why we do it. The

CLEAR Act allows for the posting of reports and issue briefs prepared by the Congressional Research Service for Members of Congress on Member and committee Web sites. The American people, students, teachers, small businessmen, farmers should be able to get this information and facts on which we as Congress base our decisions.

As we work to secure the future of our country, it is important to provide the people with the greatest information possible about their Government. This is a common sense next step in reforming our Government and returning decisions and freedom to the people.

This in no way changes the primary purpose of the Congressional Research Service, which is to serve Congress; but it gives an additional window to the citizens to understand the workings of their Government and see some of the resources we have available.

There is an entire library of resources we could be making available to citizens, information we have at our fingertips and often mail out to our constituents on a regular basis; and yet these resources cannot now be made available to American citizens in the same timely and complete manner on the Web.

This legislation that I am introducing today moves such sharing of information by Members to the public into the next century. I am pleased that many of my colleagues are taking advantage of the Internet with their committees and often Web pages to provide citizens with hearing transcripts and testimonies and copies of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

As we move into the 21st century, I believe reports prepared by the Congressional Research Service should be included, as well.

We live in an a democracy, a government of the people, by the people, and for the people; and we must give a clear view of what is going on in the Government to the people. That is why we are introducing the CLEAR Act today.

I look forward to working with the Congressional Research Service, the gentleman from California (Chairman THOMAS), and the Committee on House Administration and other interested Members of Congress to make what we do a lot clearer to our voters and continue to reform our Congress as we move into the new millennium.

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

(Mr. VITTER 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 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 Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE addressed the House. Her 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. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

#### REVISIONS TO ALLOCATION FOR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Sec. 314 of the Congressional Budget Act, I hereby submit for printing in the Congressional Record revisions to the allocation for the House Committee on Appropriations pursuant to House Report 106-623 totaling \$1,271,000,000 in additional new budget authority and \$723,000,000 in additional outlays. This will change the allocation to the House Committee on Appropriations to \$601,681,000,000 in budget authority and \$625,915,000,000 in outlays for fiscal year 2001. Budgetary aggregates will increase to \$1,529,886,000,000 in budget authority and \$1,495,136,000,000 in outlays for fiscal year 2001.

As reported to the House, H.R. 4577, the bill making fiscal year 2001 appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, includes \$801,000,000 in budget authority and \$315,000,000 in outlays for emergencies; \$450,000,000 in budget authority and \$396,000,000 in outlays for continuing disability reviews; and, \$20,000,000 in budget authority and \$12,000,000 in outlays for adoption incentive payments.

These adjustments shall apply while the legislation is under consideration and shall take effect upon final enactment of the legislation. Questions may be directed to Dan Kowalski or Jim Bates at 67270.

#### HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN IN TEXAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for the 60 minutes, we plan to address the House on health care for children in Texas. I will be joined by several Members.

My colleagues can see, Mr. Speaker, that this ad has a child that has on boxing gloves. Our children should not have to fight to get health care coverage that they truly deserve.