

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, October 31, 2000.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Wash-  
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the per-  
mission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of  
the rules of the U.S. House of Representa-  
tives, the Clerk received the following mes-  
sage from the Secretary of the Senate on Oc-  
tober 30, 2000, at 7:40 p.m.

That the Senate passed without amend-  
ment H.J. Res. 120.

With best wishes, I am  
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL.

□

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant  
to clause 1 of rule I, the Speaker  
signed the following enrolled joint res-  
olution on Monday, October 30, 2000.

House Joint Resolution 121, joint res-  
olution making further continuing ap-  
propriations for fiscal year 2001, and for  
other purposes.

□

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker,  
I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-  
bers may have 5 legislative days within  
which to revise and extend their re-  
marks on H.J. Res. 121, and that I may  
include tabular and extraneous mat-  
erial.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there  
objection to the request of the gen-  
tleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

□

#### FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker,  
pursuant to the provisions of House  
Resolution 662, I call up the joint res-  
olution (H.J. Res. 121), making further  
continuing appropriations for the fiscal  
year 2001, and for other purposes, and  
ask for its immediate consideration in  
the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint  
resolution.

The text of House Joint Resolution  
121 is as follows:

H.J. RES. 121

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Rep-  
resentatives of the United States of America in  
Congress assembled, That Public Law 106-275,  
is further amended by striking the date spec-  
ified in section 106(c) and inserting "Novem-  
ber 1, 2000".*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant  
to House Joint Resolution 662, the  
gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG)  
and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr.  
OBEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman  
from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker,  
I yield myself such time as I may con-  
sume.

Mr. Speaker, I advise our colleagues  
in the House that this is another 1-day

continuing resolution to make sure  
that the government continues to oper-  
ate until midnight tomorrow night,  
while we continue to work away in a  
friendly, cooperative, bipartisan way to  
resolve the final outstanding issues be-  
fore this Congress can adjourn.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I announce  
to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr.  
OBEY), my friend, that I do not intend  
to have a lengthy debate on our side.  
And so I am going to reserve the bal-  
ance of my time, probably until I get  
to my closing statement, depending on  
what issues might come up in the  
meantime.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of  
my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield my-  
self 7½ minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I am wearing this wrist  
band in solidarity with the over 300,000  
workers who will suffer repetitive mo-  
tion injuries, some of them career-end-  
ing, because of the gutlessness of this  
Congress in refusing, for over a 10-year  
period, to put some protection for  
those folks into the law.

Mr. Speaker, I have gone into plant  
after plant in my district and I have  
seen especially women at computer  
terminals, at shoe-stitching machines,  
wearing things like this or even worse.

Look at this picture and tell me what  
is different. What separates us as Mem-  
bers of Congress from this woman? What  
separates us is that when we have a  
repetitive motion injury, like I had  
for several weeks last year when I was  
wearing one of these, we can stop doing  
what we were doing until we recover.  
People like this woman cannot. They  
have to keep going until they cannot  
go any more.

That is the difference. The only re-  
petitive motion injury that most Mem-  
bers of Congress are likely to get is to  
their knees from the repetitive genu-  
flecting to the big business lobbyists  
who persuaded the Republican leader-  
ship to blow up the agreement on the  
Labor, Health, and Education bill by  
denying some protection to people like  
this.

That is a fact. That is a fact.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recite to my  
colleagues the history of the repetitive  
motion struggle that we have had. On  
June 29 of 1995, the House for the first  
time took action to prohibit OSHA  
from putting in place a repetitive mo-  
tion injury rule that would protect  
workers like this. That was delay num-  
ber one.

On July 27, 1995, the House Com-  
mittee on Appropriations again re-  
ported language to do the same thing.

When it was finally adopted, it again  
said that none of the funds in the bill  
would be used to enforce or implement  
an OSHA rule protecting workers like  
this from repetitive motion injury.  
That was delay number two.

Then, on July of 1996, the Sub-  
committee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education again  
tried to delay action for another year.  
That time the House had guts enough

to stand up and say no and they were  
defeated on the House floor. But they  
came back; and on July 25 of 1997, they  
again adopted new language which for  
another year delayed the implementa-  
tion of the rule to protect workers like  
this. And they won. And so, we had  
delay number three that delayed yet  
another year.

The only difference was that that  
time the House said it would be the  
last time. This is a copy of the front  
page of the committee report dated  
July 25, 1997, which outlines the fact  
that yet another year's delay was being  
undertaken to prevent these repetitive  
motion injuries. But it said "the com-  
mittee will refrain from any further re-  
strictions with regard to the develop-  
ment, promulgation, or issuance of an  
ergonomics standard following fiscal  
year 1998."

And you know what? For a year the  
Congress abided by that. It is true that  
the Congress did provide additional  
funding to do yet an additional study  
by the National Academy of Sciences  
of the issue. But at the same time that  
was done, the chairman of the com-  
mittee, Bob Livingston, our former col-  
league, in good faith signed a letter  
with me which indicated that even  
though that money was being provided  
that nonetheless "we understand that  
OSHA intends to issue a proposed rule  
on ergonomics late in the summer of  
1999. We are writing to make clear by  
funding of the NAS study it is in no  
way our intent to block or delay  
issuance by OSHA of a proposed rule on  
ergonomics."

And yet this year, here is the rollcall  
if you want to look at it, some of the  
same people who were here when the  
Congress made the agreement not to  
delay this any further voted once again  
to genuflect to the interests of big  
business and forget the interests of  
workers and they signed on to another  
year delay.

Now, in conference, finally, against  
my wishes, the White House 2 days ago  
agreed to yet another 6-month delay in  
the implementation of the standards to  
protect these workers. But what we got  
in return for that additional 6-month  
delay in implementation was the right  
of this President to at least promul-  
gate the rule.

Now, in my view, there is only one  
reason why the majority leadership  
blew up that agreement. Because that  
agreement was understood, we had an  
agreement to the entire bill! It was  
even sealed with toasts of Merlot at  
1:30 in the morning. And I do not know  
of anything more "sacred" in con-  
ference than a toast of Merlot. But  
nonetheless, after there was an agree-  
ment, then we walk out of there and  
the next morning what do we get? We  
get "Operation Blow Up" by the Re-  
publican leadership because apparently  
the Chamber of Commerce lobbyists  
got to them and said, "Boys, we do not  
want it." So they blew it up. They blew  
it up.