

not veering in one direction or another, and most definitely, not favoring one group over another. This leadership has clearly favored the privileged, and it is not like, there is no question about that; that is documented fact. The privileged, they are first in line to get theirs. And you know, if we can throw some crumbs to the people who are average everyday Americans, then you know that is fine, too.

But we have got to make sure that we get back to the competence that we need to run this government. We have to rid this government of the cronyism and the corruption, and we have got to restore the fourth C which is the American people's confidence.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. I have had very little to say in this condensed time that we have. I think it is important for us to make sure that folks are not just, Members are not just watching thinking that we are going, just coming out of the sky with this stuff. We gave it at the WashingtonPost.com. We also said, if you wanted to cosponsor on House Resolution 3764, which is a bill that we have put forth to be about the solution, making sure that we can head off a lack of governance, not paying attention to the things that we need to pay attention to.

One thing about Katrina, Madam Speaker, and Rita was the fact that we are not ready to respond to a catastrophic event here in the United States. And I can tell you that our military is ready, but the question is, are our American leaders ready to respond? Do we have what we need to have in place as it relates to the management?

And if you want to cosign on this independent commission, that I must say to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) that we talked about before, 81 percent of the polls show that Americans want to see an independent commission, you can sign on to this bill just as a regular U.S. citizen, HouseDemocrats.gov/Katrina.

With that, I say to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN) that we have a lot of work here to do. No one is saying that anyone is guilty or whatever the case may be because we know that there will be a court of law that that will take plays and on behalf of the institution, I hope all works well as it relates to democracy prevailing.

But I will tell you that it is important, and it is embarrassing to be a Member of the 109th Congress with this cloud over this institution. And people are going to look at, they do not care. They look at you as a Member of the House, not as a Democrat or a Republican or the one independent that we have here in this House. They look at us as stewards of this democracy that people have died for us to have the opportunity.

And I yield back to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN).

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Well, I am just going to wrap up here in the final, unless the gentlewoman has any final comments.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. No, I was just going to suggest that you give out the website. And we always encourage people who watch us each week to contact us, give us your thoughts and opinions and please let Members know.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. It is a little late tonight. If you are still up, 30somethingdems@mail.House.gov. Send us some e-mails. We have been getting some really great ones, and a lot of them lately.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DELAHUNT (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and October 7.

Mr. CROWLEY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. POE (at the request of Mr. BLUNT) for today after 2:00 p.m. on account of business in his district.

Mr. ROYCE (at the request of Mr. BLUNT) for today and October 7 on account of medical reasons.

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:)

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GRIJALVA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HOLT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BARROW, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today and October 7.

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GINGREY, for 5 minutes, October 7.

Mr. McCUAUL of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCHENRY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KUHL of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, October 7.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and October 7.

Mr. FORBES, for 5 minutes, October 7.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, October 7.

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. 392. An act to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress, collectively, to the Tuskegee Airmen in recognition of their unique military record, which inspired revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Financial Services.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 1413. An act to redesignate the Crowne Plaza in Kingston, Jamaica as the Colin L. Powell Residential Plaza.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on October 3, 2005, he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 3863. Natural Disaster Student Aid Fairness Act.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at midnight), the House adjourned until today, Friday, October 7, 2005, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4398. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Title IV Conservators, Receivers, and Voluntary Liquidations; Receivership Repudiation Authorities (RIN: 3052-AC26) received September 26, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4399. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Funding and Fiscal Affairs, Loan Policies and Operations, and Funding Operations; Investments, Liquidity, and Divestiture (RIN: 3052-AC22) received September 8, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4400. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule—Community Reinvestment Act Regulations [Regulation BB; Docket No. R-1225] received July 29, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4401. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Division of Consumer and Comm. Affairs, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule—Truth in Lending [Regulation Z; Docket No. R-1231] received August 10, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4402. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—