

Res. 745) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3246) to provide for a program of research, development, demonstration, and commercial application in vehicle technologies at the Department of Energy, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3221, STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

Mr. POLIS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-256) on the resolution (H. Res. 746) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

□ 1800

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 744.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MASSA). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 648

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of House Resolution 648.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2480

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 2480.

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

There was no objection.

THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, today the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Mike Mullen, told Congress that he needed more troops to succeed in Afghanistan. He's probably right, just like Army Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki was right when he said we needed more troops in Iraq.

But just as we failed to ask the tough strategic questions about Iraq, it is my

sincere belief that we are now failing to ask the tough strategic questions about Afghanistan.

Colin Powell said, "When we go to war, we should have a purpose our people understand and support."

Do we have that today in Afghanistan? Every time we send a young American over for a tour of duty, we are deciding to go to war over and over again. The question is, Does the American public understand and support that decision? Do we as a body understand and support the long-term strategy behind the war in Afghanistan? Or has the people's House gone on autopilot, deciding to debate only numbers and not the bigger questions of why, how, and when this Nation should go to war?

HONORING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am here to support House Resolution 738, honoring the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act.

Violence against women is one of the world's most widespread human rights violations. It is a pandemic that can be stopped, but it requires dedicated political will and resources. As long as women across the globe continue to struggle to break through the shame and silence that surrounds the violence, we must continue to put it on every national and global agenda.

Violence against women fractures communities, devastates lives, and robs the gifts and potential of millions of women and girls. It is an issue that demands our utmost attention and our undivided priority.

Together we must continue our efforts to end this scourge on society and turn violence against women into an extinct crime rather than a global pandemic. Only then will women be able to live free of violence, which is a fundamental human right.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, the rich heritage of our Hispanic citizens has enriched the fabric of our culture since before there was a United States of America. From the old Spanish forts of Florida to today's vibrant communities of East Los Angeles in my own district, Latino culture has been, and continues to be, an important part of our national identity.

Our diversity is the key to our strength, and America would not be the great Nation it is without the passion, ingenuity, and perseverance of the millions of immigrants who have

come to our shores looking for a better life.

The values of our Hispanic communities, those of hard work, strength of character, commitment to family and country, are also American values. And today the entrepreneurial spirit of our 47.5 million Hispanic Americans is an integral part of our economic recovery.

So I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today as we recognize the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month and to stand proudly with me in acknowledging that the Hispanic Dream and the American Dream are one and the same.

HONORING MAYOR BILL WELCH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who was an example of what was the best of what is journalism and politics. Mayor Bill Welch of State College, Pennsylvania, passed away September 4 at age 67. In 2002 Welch was named Penn State's Renaissance Man of the Year, and I believe that title may be one of the best descriptions of the man.

After his 1964 graduation from Penn State, he became a reporter for the Centre Daily Times. He went on to become news editor, managing editor, and editor. A reporter from the newspaper quoted Welch as saying: "Commit to something greater than yourself. Do not shy away from differences. Seek them out." His work at the paper reflected that thought.

He went on to run for borough councilman and was elected mayor in 1994. He wore a signature panama hat and carried humor, intelligence, selflessness, and goodwill to everything he tried. Welch ran unopposed for the Democratic nomination for mayor in this year's primary and won the Republican nomination through write-ins. That probably sums up his command of politics.

At a time when parties are polarized, Welch was a man of the people. And he will be missed.

AUDITING THE FEDERAL RESERVE IS LONG OVERDUE

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

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, it was announced earlier today that there will be a hearing on H.R. 1207, the bill to audit the Federal Reserve Bank. This will be the first independent audit in the Federal Reserve's 96-year history, and it's long overdue.

Months ago I asked the Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Who received the \$1 trillion in funds that the Federal Reserve has handed out to domestic institutions?

He said, I'm not going to tell you.

Then more recently to the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, I asked him,