

a constrained time period of 10 hours. I don't want to go over that debate again. I think we have well covered that from both viewpoints. But I guess I am asking what we can expect on the rules next week.

What kind of a rule would the gentleman expect on the defense supplemental and the rescission bills? Will they be governed under one rule and will that rule be open and be time limited? And the rule on the regulatory transition moratorium, would that be an open rule and would it be time limited?

Mr. SOLOMON. If the gentleman will yield, the two rescission bills, we have not put out a rule as the gentleman knows and we will not be doing that until a rule meeting that I will call sometime late Tuesday afternoon or evening. We would probably have a time constraint on that.

The rule that we will be putting out as far as the regulatory reform, we have not discussed that yet. I assume there would be an open rule with time constraints, again because of the problem as we approach the April 8 date. The gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY] our majority leader, and the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] our Speaker, have said we have to stick to the schedule to make sure we are going to get the Members out by that 3-week break period.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Reclaiming my time, you are saying in both the case of the supplemental and the rescission bills and the case of regulatory transition, you are anticipating, and I understand you have not done it yet, but you are anticipating open rules with time restraints?

Mr. SOLOMON. That is what we have in mind. Again, with consultation with the minority, we will keep in touch with you and make that determination early next week.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Finally, maybe I did not hear it. I was asking about whether the defense supplemental and the rescission bills would be governed under one rule.

Mr. SOLOMON. Yes, they will. They will be brought to the floor under one rule, and debated the same day.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. KANJORSKI].

Mr. KANJORSKI. For purpose of inquiry to the majority leader, Mr. Leader, as you know last week I expressed my great concern about having mark-ups on very important bills in the committee and having amendments on the floor to legislation going at the same time and I felt that we were losing the benefit of the deliberative nature of the House of Representatives.

I have conceded as I have indicated before that we will probably suffer that as long as we are under the constraints to accomplish something for public relations over 100 days as opposed to substantive legislative purposes.

Knowing that to be the case, however, the rumors circulating in the House, it is the intention of the major-

ity to interfere with what I call communications of representatives with their district, in that you intend to hold the House in session on Saturdays during the month of March. Is that correct?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEPHARDT. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. Let me begin by observing that the gentleman's point is taken.

Mr. Speaker, we are working on a March schedule. We have a great deal of work to do and we have, as you know, a very compressed time period in which to do it. We are working on a March schedule. We are trying to consult with everybody and take into consideration a very wide range of concerns, not the least of which are the physical demands of the schedule on our Members. We have every hope and intention of avoiding working on weekends, Saturdays and Sundays in March, or for that matter we would hope at all.

Clearly it is our hope and our design to avoid that. We think that is possible and I am very optimistic.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman further yield?

Mr. GEPHARDT. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. KANJORSKI. That is not quite the Shermanesque statement I had hoped to get from the majority leader. It seems to me the majority leader is saying that the 100 days is more important than allowing the membership to communicate with our constituents. We have given up the thought process in the House, we have given up our deliberative activity in the House. I do not think it is fair to the American people or the traditions of this institution to give up the ability to communicate with our constituents on weekends.

Is there some magic in this 100 days that we could not continue and not have a 3-week break in April, and make it a 2-week break or a 1-week break so that we could continue over the period of March and April to communicate with our constituents?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEPHARDT. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. ARMEY. Again the gentleman's point is taken.

I can only tell the gentleman, we have made it very clear, we have a contract, we feel strongly about our commitment. We are certainly committed to doing a big job, a big change. We know it is hard work. We intend to keep that commitment.

The gentleman should be advised that it should hardly come as any new news to anyone that these circumstances are existent and they will be met.

We intend to meet the completion of this legislative agenda in the appointed time with all due respect and with

every bit of sensitive consideration for the needs of the Members.

□ 1440

And we will do the best we can do to get that done. And again, I do the best, if the gentleman will yield further, Mr. Speaker, I do the best I can to control what I can control and to deal with what I cannot control.

Mr. KANJORSKI. Just a final request.

Mr. GEPHARDT. I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. KANJORSKI. I indicated about 2 weeks ago on the floor that I do not think there is going to be any surprise that the majority entertains a majority of approximately 240 votes more or less, and that all of the legislation the majority wishes to adopt in the House of Representatives will be able to be completed and concluded to its intentions.

It seems to me that rather than now interfere with our relationship and our communications with our constituents, since the debate process really is not for the purposes of communicating with our constituents, or educating our constituents or ourselves for that matter, why do we not just move along with the 100-day contract over the next 2 weeks, bring it in under an hour closed rule and have it adopted so that we can get this foolishness out of the way and get on to the serious substantial business of the House of Representatives.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the Speaker yield?

Mr. GEPHARDT. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman could get his leadership on his side to endorse his procedural recommendation, I would be happy to take it under consideration.

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CONTINUATION OF ORDER OF THE HOUSE RELATING TO MORNING HOUR DEBATE AND SPECIAL ORDER SPEECHES UNTIL MAY 12, 1995

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the order of the House of January 5, 1995, relating to morning hour debates be continued through May 12, 1995, with the understanding that the format for recognition for special order speeches first instituted on February 23, 1994, be continued for the same period.

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

There was no objection.

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RESIGNATION AS MEMBER AND ELECTION OF MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs: