

5. The outside counsel shall be free, after discussion with the Committee, to make such public statements and reports as the counsel deems appropriate;

6. The outside counsel shall have full authority to recommend that formal charges be brought before the Ethics Committee, shall be responsible for initiating and conducting proceedings if formal charges have been brought and shall handle any aspects of the proceedings believed to be necessary for a full inquiry;

7. The Committee shall not countermand or interfere with the outside counsel's ability to take steps necessary to conduct a full and fair investigation; and

8. The outside counsel will not be removed except for good cause."

Gingrich wrote to Chairman Dixon, "It is my impression from press reports that the Ethics Committee has specifically failed to meet the Common Cause standard. Furthermore, it is my understanding that the special counsel cannot go beyond the six areas outlined in your June 9, 1988, Resolution of Preliminary Inquiry. This leads me to believe that the special counsel will not be allowed to investigate the questionable bulk purchases of Mr. Wright's book, 'Reflections of a Public Man,' as a way to circumvent House limits on outside income.

"I am particularly concerned that the unusual purchases by the Teamsters Union, the New England Mutual Life Insurance Co., a Fort Worth developer, and a Washington lobbyist will not be investigated.

"I believe many will perceive this action as an attempt by the Ethics Committee to control the scope and direction of the investigation."

Gingrich requested a copy of the contract arranged between the Ethics Committee and Mr. Phelan. He also asked to know the extent of Mr. Phelan's subpoena power.

Gingrich said, "The House of Representatives, as well as the American public, deserve an investigation which will uncover the truth. At this moment, I am afraid that the apparent restrictions placed on this special counsel will not allow the truth to be uncovered.

"The rules normally applied by the Ethics Committee to an investigation of a typical Member are insufficient in an investigation of the Speaker of the House, a position which is third in the line of succession to the Presidency and the second best powerful elected position in America. Clearly, this investigation has to meet a higher standard of public accountability and integrity."

□ 1800

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILLMOR). Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR 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 Indiana [Mr. MCINTOSH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MCINTOSH 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 Massachusetts [Mr. FRANK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

STATE OF TENNESSEE NOW ENJOYS REPUBLICAN MAJORITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. BRYANT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight and join my fellow colleagues from Tennessee to proudly announce to this body that for the first time since reconstruction, the Tennessee State senate has a majority of Republicans.

State Senators Rusty Crowe of Johnson City and Milton Hamilton of Union City last week made the decision to make Tennessee history.

If I am not mistaken, this is the first time since the 104th Congress convened that a State senate has seen a party switch.

And what's more, it didn't even take an election to do it.

Senator Hamilton had served as a State senator for 25 years as a Democrat. After he made his announcement to switch parties, he said, and I quote: "I'll be honest with you. I should have switched a long time ago."

Prior to his switch, Senator Crowe stated, and again I quote: "If I do it, it will be because I believe it's the right thing for my constituency."

Mr. Speaker, clearly this latest action reinforces and validates the notion that our party has a vision for the future, that the fundamental restructuring of government we are implementing at the Federal level is continually gaining support at the State level.

Tennessee is leading the way for all of America for the cause of a smaller, less costly, and less intrusive Federal Government, and like my fellow colleagues here with me tonight, I'm proud to be a part of it.

But all of this positive change just did not take place on its own. It took many hours of long, hard work in order for this revolution to be realized.

While there were many who helped what once was surely only a dream to become a reality, there are a couple of individuals who have devoted themselves to the Republican cause.

Before I close, I would like to take just a moment to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of two special people back home.

Our State party chairman, Randle Richardson, deserves as much credit as anyone for securing a Republican majority in the senate. Randle has worked

tirelessly for our party, and has devoted his life to the cause of a common-sense government.

And my predecessor, my good friend Gov. Don Sundquist, had a lot to do with this. Governor Sundquist has always extended an open and welcome hand, and we should all applaud him for his efforts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. DELAURO addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TRAGEDY OVER PUGET SOUND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. WHITE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WHITE. Mr. Speaker, I live on an island in the middle of Puget Sound, and a week ago yesterday, on Monday, I took the 6:20 a.m. ferry over to Seattle enroute to a meeting. As we left the harbor, a very sad thing happened. The captain of the ferry came on and said that we were going to have to slow down because he had had reports that a helicopter had crashed in Puget Sound and we would have to help in the search.

The fact is, as we went a little further across the sound, we saw some pieces of wreckage. A helicopter had, in fact, crashed and we spent several minutes cruising around the area trying to find survivors. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, there were no survivors and we learned that what this was was an Airlift Northwest medical helicopter coming over the island with a team of nurses to help in a medical emergency on the island, to take some people back to Seattle.

Mr. Speaker, a pilot and three medics died in this crash, and I would have to say that the captain came on the intercom on the ferry boat and said it probably best as we left the scene of the accident after looking for the survivors. He said:

Ladies and gentleman, sorry for the inconvenience, sorry we had to spend a few minutes trying to help out in this search, but you have just seen the final resting place of three true American heroes.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add just a few thoughts to what the captain of the ferry boat said on that morning. As I said, I live on Bainbridge Island and I have heard the helicopter go over my house many times bringing medical help to people who needed it on the island and could not get to a hospital. There are approximately 14,000 people living on this island and there are places like it all over the United States. Every day we counted on people at Airlift Northwest to help us out, we counted on them and they risked their lives to help us. We owe them the deepest debt of congratulations.