

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. SCHROEDER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1655. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 1655) "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KYL, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. MACK, Mr. COHEN, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. KERREY, Mr. GLENN, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. ROBB, and Mr. NUNN to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 11, 1995.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER GINGRICH: I am writing to inform you that I will be resigning my position as the Member of Congress from the 15th Congressional District of California. The effective resignation date will be October 10, 1995.

Sincerely,

NORMAN Y. MINETA,
Member of Congress.

DEMOCRATS' DANCING ON MEDICARE PLAN

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, the Democrats have detailed their own

Medicare plan, best referred to as the Fred Astaire of Medicare. Light on its feet and even lighter on its details, the Democrats' plan dances around the hard decisions of the Medicare crisis in search of easy, look-good answers.

It promises the seniors everything, everything except a Medicare system, because under the Democrats' plan, Medicare won't be around for the people who are 56 years old today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to unlace those dancing shoes—don't give seniors the song and dance, then leave them to pay the band. Work with us to do what's right—let's save Medicare for the next generation, not just through the next election cycle.

MEDICARE PRESERVATION ACT

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, there are two competing points of view regarding the future of Medicare; those that want to save the system and those that want to stand on the sidelines and try to scare as many seniors as possible.

For those of us committed to saving Medicare, our best weapon is a commodity that isn't always put to use in Washington: the truth. Despite what the other side continues to claim, the truth is, we're not cutting Medicare; Medicare spending increases under the Medicare Preservation Act.

The defining feature of our proposal is choice; seniors will now have the ability to choose from a range of health care options, from the fee-for-service approach of the traditional Medicare program to managed care options and medical savings accounts.

The most important truth that everyone must know is that Medicare faces imminent collapse in 7 years unless we act. We are offering a plan that increases Medicare spending, preserves the solvency of the system, and gives seniors new choices to better meet their health care needs.

I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stop the rhetorical warfare they are engaging in and work with us to preserve and protect Medicare.

DEMOCRATS CANNOT ADD

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, it seems Goals 2000 bureaucrats have changed the way we teach addition and subtraction. If not, then how can the political operatives of the Democratic National Committee call a \$1,900 increase a cut? It's really quite simple. Either they can't add, or scaring senior citizens with imaginary Medicare cuts is the only way they believe Democrats can regain control of Congress.

While the Republican majority diligently works to save Medicare, the paid political hands at the DNC have launched a Medicare campaign that suggests that Republicans are cutting Medicare, even though our plan increases spending per Medicare beneficiary from \$4,800 this year to \$6,700 in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, scare tactics and fear mongering will not save Medicare. It's time for the minority party to fire their political advisors and join our efforts to preserve, protect, and strengthen Medicare. The American people want leadership from their Representatives in Congress—not cynical 30-second political ads.

THE REAL REPUBLICAN PLAN TO SAVE MEDICARE

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

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, among the many myths that Democrats are perpetuating about the GOP plan to save Medicare, the biggest is that the Republicans want to cut Medicare. This is simply not the case. The Republican plan actually increases individual benefits from an annual \$4,800 to \$6,700 by the year 2002, and increases Medicare spending from \$161 billion this year to \$274 billion.

Two years ago it was explained to Congress that today, and I quote, "Today Medicaid and Medicare are going up three times the rate of inflation. We propose to let it go up at two times the rate of inflation. This is not a cut."

This quote is not from a Republican. This is from the President, President Clinton.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage both sides of the aisle to negotiate this and come together. Members should recognize that Medicare needs to be improved and saved.

You see, Mr. Speaker, at least some Democrats understand basic mathematics. At least some of them know that their wild claims about Republican efforts to save Medicare are false. Democrats, instead of scaring people, should roll up their sleeves to preserve and strengthen Medicare.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Edwin Thomas, one of his secretaries.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO OFFER AMENDMENT IN LIEU OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 436, EDIBLE OIL REGULATORY REFORM ACT

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 436, Edible Oil Regulatory Reform Act, on

behalf of the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLILEY]. That bill will be called up under the Corrections Calendar later today.

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

Mr. OBERSTAR. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, I do so for the purpose of inquiring of the gentleman from North Carolina for what purpose he makes this unanimous-consent request.

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, to offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute on behalf of the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLILEY].

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, the concern that I have is that this procedure violates the rules of Corrections Day. Under the rules, the bill called up, "shall not be subject to amendment, except those amendments recommended by the primary committee of jurisdiction, or those offered by the Chairman of the primary committee," and it does not say, or his designee.

Mr. BURR. If the gentleman will continue to yield, I recognize the gentleman's concern. The gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLILEY] has been unavoidably detained, and we have an amendment in the nature of a substitute that has been worked out between the Committee on Commerce, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Committee on Agriculture. Because of the nature of the issue that we are talking about, I hope the gentleman will understand, and to bring some common sense to this one thing, I would hope that we could proceed with it.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I shall not object, but I reserved the right in order to point out the flaw of the process. The process of Corrections Day is a real shortcut of the legislative process that we have followed in this House for well over 100 years, and the Suspension Calendar was the appropriate means for bringing legislation to the floor. Even the rules that the majority have adopted do not provide them the flexibility that they now seek through a unanimous-consent request, and that is my concern. I will withdraw my reservation, but I did so in order to point out the flaws of the process.

Mr. BURR. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

CORRECTIONS CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is the day for the call of the Corrections Calendar.

The Clerk will call the bill on the Corrections Calendar.

EDIBLE OIL REGULATORY REFORM ACT

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 436) to require the head of any Federal agency to differentiate between fats, oils, and greases of animal, marine, or vegetable origin, and other oils and greases, in issuing certain regulations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 436

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DIFFERENTIATION AMONG FATS, OILS, AND GREASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In issuing or enforcing any regulation or establishing any interpretation or guideline relating to a fat, oil, or grease under any Federal law, the head of any Federal agency shall differentiate between—

(1)(A) animal fats and oils and greases, and fish and marine mammal oils, within the meaning of paragraph (2) of section 61(a) of title 13, United States Code; or

(B) oils of vegetable origin, including oils from the seeds, nuts, and kernels referred to in paragraph (1)(A) of such section; and

(2) other oils and greases, including petroleum.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In differentiating between the class of fats, oils, and greases described in subsection (a)(1) and the class of oils and greases described in subsection (a)(2), the head of the Federal agency shall consider differences in the physical, chemical, biological, and other properties, and in the environmental effects, of the classes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BURR].

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. BURR OF NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. BURR of North Carolina in lieu of the Committee on Commerce amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Edible Oil Regulatory Reform Act".

SEC. 2. DIFFERENTIATION AMONG FATS, OILS, AND GREASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (c), in issuing or enforcing any regulation or establishing any interpretation or guideline relating to a fat, oil, or grease under any Federal law, the head of any Federal agency shall—

(1) differentiate between and establish separate classes for—

(A) animal fats and oils and greases, and fish and marine mammal oils, within the meaning of paragraph (2) of section 61(a) of title 13, United States Code, and oils of vegetable origin, including oils from the seeds, nuts, and kernels referred to in paragraph (1)(A) of such section; and

(B) other oils and greases, including petroleum; and

(2) apply different standards to different classes of fats and oils as provided in subsection (b).

(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In differentiating between the class of fats, oils, and greases described in subsection (a)(1)(A) and the class of oils and greases described in subsection

(a)(1)(B), the head of the Federal agency shall consider differences in the physical, chemical, biological, and other properties, and in the environmental effects, of the classes.

(c) EXCEPTION.—The requirements of this Act shall not apply to the Food and Drug Administration and the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

(d) FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—

(1) Section 1004(a)(1) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2704(a)(1)) is amended by striking "for a tank vessel," and inserting "for a tank vessel carrying oil in bulk as cargo or cargo residue (except a tank vessel on which the only oil carried is an animal fat or vegetable oil, as those terms are used in section 2 of the Edible Oil Regulatory Reform Act)".

(2) Section 1016(a) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2176(a)) is amended in the first sentence by striking "in the case of a tank vessel, the responsible party could be subject under section 1004(a)(1) or (d) of this Act, or to which, in the case of any other vessel, the responsible party could be subjected under section 1004(a)(2) or (d)" and inserting "the responsible party could be subjected under section 1004(a) or (d) of this Act".

Mr. BURR (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment in the nature of a substitute be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BURR] and the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. OBERSTAR] will each be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BURR].

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. BURR asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 436, the Edible Oils Regulation Reform Act. This legislation will correct an unintended and burdensome problem created by certain Federal regulations, and so it is very fitting that this legislation is being considered today on the new House corrections calendar.

As my colleagues are aware, there are several environmental laws that contain definitions of the term "oil". While the legislative history of each statute indicates that it was the intent of Congress that the term "oil" referred to petroleum and petroleum-related products, the definitions are fairly broad and Federal regulators have taken the view that the term must be interpreted to include all types of oil, including vegetable oils and animal fats.

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As my colleagues from other committees will describe in greater detail, this has meant that regulations written for the transportation and handling of petroleum have also been applied to transportation and handling of vegetable oils and animal fats. These same