

Had the other one been OK, fine. I even voted for it on the rollcall we did a week ago. I was one of three Republicans that did this. That process is there. This process is here. Let us pass this today so the Senate will have the opportunity, and hopefully take the opportunity, to work it and pass it where-by Federal employees can come back early next week.

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS].

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the frustration of Members on both sides in trying to deal with this in a fair-handed way.

Once again I supported the minority leader's request to bring this up clean. That was the surest and safest way to get Federal employees and contractors back to work.

This can work, too. The only objection that could be interjected here are by Senators who feel a balanced budget agreement agreed to by the President and congressional leaders and brought back here would not be subject to the same expedited consideration that we usually undergo in budget reconciliation, that would allow a handful of Members to filibuster to death a balanced budget.

No one here, I think, favors that. I cannot believe when it goes back to the Senate they will not be able to work that out. This is not necessarily the preferred mode. This moves us closer to the balanced budget and moves us closer to getting Federal employees back to work.

In the absence of the minority leader's request today being objected to, this is the next best option. I hope it will be adopted.

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I yield very briefly to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, we have been relatively rational, reasonable sounding in the course of this day's proceedings. But I want to tell the Speaker and this House there is a great deal of anger in America, not just in my district or that of the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS], or that of the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. WOLF], or that of the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN], or that of the gentleman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA], a great deal of anger, I suspect in yours as well, Mr. Speaker, anger that the politicians cannot get it done.

The difference between the last resolution, yes, it was offered by the minority leader, the majority leader of the U.S. Senate, a Republican running for President, and, yes, President Clinton agreed with it as the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. WOLF] has pointed out, and our side agreed with it in a bipartisan, nonpartisan, common sense, let us get the Government back to work and stop playing politics with one another.

There is a difference with this resolution. This resolution attempts to muzzle the minority in the Senate.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am not going to object to this resolution. My friend, the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. DAVIS], points out that this is the next best thing. I suggest the best thing is to pass a simple continuing resolution which could have been done in 5 minutes before we left here to go on recess ourselves.

Mr. Speaker, I fear very much that the analogy made by the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN] that this is a 15-foot rope for a 20-foot victim may be apt. It may be correct. And that is a tragedy, and those in America who are angry are angry because they see this as politics as usual, not doing what everybody on this floor has said ought to be done, everybody today has said ought to be done, put the Government back to work while we make the difficult decisions.

But I think the inevitable decision is to get us to balance. I am for that. As everybody knows, I voted for that.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that in the next few hours, the leadership, who, as the gentleman from Missouri, a decent, honest Member who serves his district and country well, said of the objection on the last amendment, that it was for certain procedural amenities. I appreciate that. That is important to us on the minority side that we cannot offer a unanimous-consent request if they do not agree, and they cannot offer if we do not agree. That is an important principle. I understand that.

But when Americans hear that the Government is shut down because of certain procedural amenities, very frankly, their anger is heightened.

I do not mean to mischaracterize what the gentleman said. The gentleman referred to what both sides feel is an important consideration that each gives to the other. I want to make that clear to the American public. The gentleman honestly and correctly stated that principle.

But, Mr. Speaker, we should in a very simple, straightforward way, with no political objections on either side, pass Majority Leader DOLE's resolution clean. Let that be the law, and then let us resolve the difference between us and adopt what I believe that more than two-thirds of this body and, frankly, more than two-thirds of the Senate agree ought to be done, that is, a balanced budget in 7 years honestly scored by CBO so that America and America's children could have a better future.

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, if no one else seeks recognition, let me say that the resolution that was objected to would have permitted a minority of a minority of a minority in the Senate to filibuster interminably. The issue now before the House, the resolution now before the House, would put the issue right on the dime and get on with business.

Mr. Speaker, in consideration of the superior nature of this resolution, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHIFF). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia? There was no objection.

The Senate bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, bills and joint resolutions of the House of the following titles:

H.J. Res. 136. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1996, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1530. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1655. 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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 320, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 58 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

NOTICE OF ADOPTED RULES

U.S. CONGRESS,
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE,

Washington, DC, December 21, 1995.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to Section 303 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. §1384(b)), I am transmitting the enclosed Notice of Adoption of Procedural Rules, together with a copy of the rules for publication in the Congressional Record.

In addition, I have enclosed for publication, along with the adopted rules, a "red-lined" copy of the proposed rules, which were published in the Congressional Record on November 14, 1995. Publication of this "red-lined" copy, along with the final rules, will enable readers of the Congressional Record to note precisely the changes that were made.

The Congressional Accountability Act specifies that the enclosed rules be published on the first day on which both Houses are in session following this transmittal.

Sincerely,

RICKY SILBERMAN,
Executive Director.