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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

We pray, gracious God, that You would watch over us and keep us in Your favor, that You would support us in our obligations and direct us in the right path, that You would sustain us in our endeavors and point us to the way of truth. O loving God, from whom we have come and to whom we shall return, may Your peace that passes all human understanding abound in our lives. Though we may depart from You, O God, may Your grace and mercy never depart from us. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. BALLENGER] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BALLENGER 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 without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2064. An act to grant the consent of Congress to an amendment of the Historic

Chattahoochee Compact between the States of Alabama and Georgia; and

H.R. 2243. An act to amend the Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Act of 1984, to extend for three years the availability of moneys for the restoration of fish and wildlife in the Trinity River, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1743. An act to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to extend the authorizations of appropriations through fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 1836. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire property in the town of East Hampton, Suffolk County, New York, for inclusion in the Amagansett National Wildlife Refuge.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 811. An act to authorize research into the desalinization and reclamation of water and authorize a program for States, cities, or qualifying agencies desiring to own and operate a water desalinization or reclamation facility to develop such facilities, and for other purposes; and

S. 1720. An act to establish the Nicodemus National Historic Site and the New Bedford National Historic Landmark.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee on conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 641) "An Act to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act of 1990, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that pursuant to sections 276d-276g of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. HATCH, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. PRESSLER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GORTON, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. MACK, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. GRAMS, as mem-

bers of the Senate delegation to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group during the 2d Session of the 104th Congress, to be held in southeast Alaska, May 10-14, 1996.

The message also announced that pursuant to sections 276h-276k of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. COVERDELL, as members of the Senate delegation to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group during the 2d Session of the 104th Congress, to be held in Zacatecas, Mexico, May 3-5, 1996.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 2, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Thursday, May 2nd at 4:15 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President wherein he returns without his approval H.R. 956, the "Common Sense Product Liability Legal Reform Act of 1996."

With warm regards,
ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk, House of Representatives.

COMMON SENSE PRODUCT LIABILITY REFORM ACT OF 1996—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. 104-207)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States:

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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To the House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith without my approval H.R. 956, the "Common Sense Product Liability Legal Reform Act of 1996."

I support real commonsense product liability reform. To deserve that label, however, legislation must adequately protect the interests of consumers, in addition to the interests of manufacturers and sellers. Further, the legislation must respect the important role of the States in our Federal system. The Congress could have passed such legislation, appropriately limited in scope and balanced in application, meeting these tests. Had the Congress done so, I would have signed the bill gladly. The Congress, however, chose not to do so, deciding instead to retain provisions in the bill that I made clear I could not accept.

This bill inappropriately intrudes on State authority, and does so in a way that tilts the legal playing field against consumers. While some Federal action in this area is proper because no one State can alleviate nationwide problems in the tort system, the States should have, as they always have had, primary responsibility for tort law. The States traditionally have handled this job well, serving as laboratories for new ideas and making needed reforms. This bill unduly interferes with that process in products cases; moreover, it does so in a way that peculiarly disadvantages consumers. As a rule, this bill displaces State law only when that law is more favorable to consumers; it defers to State law when that law is more helpful to manufacturers and sellers. I cannot accept, absent compelling reasons, such a one-way street of federalism.

Apart from this general problem of displacing State authority in an unbalanced manner, specific provisions of H.R. 956 unfairly disadvantage consumers and their families. Consumers should be able to count on the safety of the products they purchase. And if these products are defective and cause harm, consumers should be able to get adequate compensation for their losses. Certain provisions in this bill work against these goals, preventing some injured persons from recovering the full measure of their damages and increasing the possibility that defective goods will come onto the market as a result of intentional misconduct.

In particular, I object to the following provisions of the bill, which subject consumers to too great a risk of harm.

First, as I previously have stated, I oppose wholly eliminating joint liability for noneconomic damages such as pain and suffering because such a change could prevent many persons from receiving full compensation for injury. When one wrongdoer cannot pay its portion of the judgment, the other wrongdoers, and not the innocent victim, should have to shoulder that part of the award. Traditional law accomplishes this result. In contrast, this bill would leave the victim to bear these damages on his or her own. Given how often companies that manufacture

defective products go bankrupt, this provision has potentially large consequences.

This provision is all the more troubling because it unfairly discriminates against the most vulnerable members of our society—the elderly, the poor, children, and nonworking women—whose injuries often involve mostly noneconomic losses. There is no reason for this kind of discrimination. Noneconomic damages are as real and as important to victims as economic damages. We should not create a tort system in which people with the greatest need of protection stand the least chance of receiving it.

Second, as I also have stated, I oppose arbitrary ceilings on punitive damages, because they endanger the safety of the public. Capping punitive damages undermines their very purpose, which is to punish and thereby deter egregious misconduct. The provision of the bill allowing judges to exceed the cap if certain factors are present helps to mitigate, but does not cure this problem, given the clear intent of the Congress, as expressed in the Statement of Managers, that judges should use this authority only in the most unusual cases.

In addition, I am concerned that the Conference Report fails to fix an oversight in title II of the bill, which limits actions against suppliers of materials used in devices implanted in the body. In general, title II is a laudable attempt to ensure the supply of materials needed to make life-saving medical devices, such as artificial heart valves. But as I believe even many supporters of the bill agree, a supplier of materials who knew or should have known that the materials, as implanted, would cause injury should not receive any protection from suit. Title II's protections must be clearly limited to nonnegligent suppliers.

My opposition to these Senate-passed provisions were known prior to the Conference on the bill. But instead of addressing these issues, the Conference Committee took several steps backward in the direction of the bill approved by the House.

First, the Conference Report seems to expand the scope of the bill, inappropriately applying the limits on punitive and noneconomic damages to lawsuits, where, for example, a gun dealer has knowingly sold a gun to a convicted felon or a bar owner has knowingly served a drink to an obviously inebriated customer. I believe that such suits should go forward unhindered. Some in the Congress have argued that the change made in Conference is technical in nature, so that the bill still exempts these actions. But I do not read the change in this way—and in any event, I do not believe that a victim of a drunk driver should have to argue in court about this matter. The Congress should not have made this last-minute change, creating this unfortunate ambiguity, in the scope of the bill.

In addition, the Conference Report makes certain changes that, though

sounding technical, may cut off a victim's ability to sue a negligent manufacturer. The Report deletes a provision that would have stopped the statute of limitations from running when a bankruptcy court issues the automatic stay that prevents suits from being filed during bankruptcy proceedings. The effect of this seemingly legalistic change will be that some persons harmed by companies that have entered bankruptcy proceedings (as makers of defective products often do) will lose any meaningful opportunity to bring valid claims.

Similarly, the Conference Report reduces the statute of repose to 15 years (and less if States to provide) and applies the statute to a wider range of goods, including handguns. This change, which bars a suit against a maker of an older product even if that product has just caused injury, also will preclude some valid suits.

In recent weeks, I have heard from many victims of defective products whose efforts to recover compensation would have been frustrated by this bill. I have heard from a woman who would not have received full compensatory damages under this bill for the death of a child because one wrongdoer could not pay his portion of the judgment. I have heard from women whose suits against makers of defective contraceptive devices—and the punitive damages awarded in those suits—forced the products off the market, in a way that this bill's cap on punitives would make much harder. I have heard from persons injured by products more than 15 years old, who under this bill could not bring suit at all.

Injured people cannot be left to suffer in this fashion; furthermore, the few companies that cause these injuries cannot be left, through lack of a deterrent, to engage in misconduct. I therefore must return the bill that has been presented to me. This bill would undermine the ability of courts to provide relief to victims of harmful products and thereby endanger the health and safety of the entire American public. There is nothing common sense about such reforms to product liability law.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 2, 1996.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HORN). The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal, and the message and bill will be printed as a House document.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that further consideration of the veto message on the bill, H.R. 956, be postponed until Thursday, May 9, 1996, and that upon further consideration of the veto message on that day, the previous question be considered as ordered on the question of passage of the bill, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding, without intervening motion or debate except 1 hour of debate on the question of passage.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, consideration of the veto message on H.R. 956 will be postponed until Thursday, May 9, 1996, and, upon further consideration of the veto message on that day, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the question of passage of the bill, the objections of the President to contrary notwithstanding, without intervening motion or debate, except 1 hour of debate on the question of passage.

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON HOUSE OVERSIGHT TO FILE REPORT ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 417, PROVIDING AMOUNTS FOR EXPENSES OF SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON UNITED STATES ROLE IN IRANIAN ARMS TRANSFERS TO CROATIA AND BOSNIA

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Oversight may have until midnight tonight, May 6, 1996, to file a report on House Resolution 417, providing amounts for the expenses of the Select Subcommittee on the United States role in Iranian arms transfers to Croatia and Bosnia of the Committee on International Relations in the Second Session of the 104th Congress.

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

There was no objection.

THE PRETEND PRESIDENT

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, President Clinton is just pretending to be President. He is just pretending to propose solutions to our Nation's problems. Let me illustrate what I mean.

Take the issue of helping the working poor. The President, by proposing an increase in the minimum wage, has a pretend solution to a real problem. Raising minimum wage will cause job loss and won't help the working poor. Even President Clinton agrees. He said so in Time magazine in 1995. If President Clinton thought raising the minimum wage was a good idea, he should have raised it when the Democrats had control of the Congress during the first 2 years of his term. He didn't I can only conclude that the President doesn't want to help the working poor, only wants to pretend to help.

Another recent example of pretending is the announcement that he will sell 12 million barrels of oil from the strategic petroleum reserve in an effort to reduce rising gasoline prices. Twelve million barrels sounds like a lot of oil, but it is less than a day's supply for the Nation. The sale of oil will have a neg-

ligible effect on prices. If he wanted a real solution to a real problem, he would support repeal of his 4.3 cents a gallon gasoline tax of 1993. However, President Clinton would rather make a bold announcement and pretend to do something about rising gas prices.

We need a President that has real solutions for real problems. Not a President who is playing "let's pretend."

MEDICARE TRUSTEES REPORT

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, the Medicare trustees reported last year that the part A trust fund, covering all inpatient hospital care, would be bankrupt by the year 2002, essentially confirming the findings of the Kerrey Commission. However, in light of new Treasury Department estimates that the trust fund ran a \$4.2 billion deficit through the first half of fiscal year 1996, experts, including the former Chief Actuary to HCFA, now conclude that the trust fund could be bankrupt in the year 2000, just 4 years from now. These facts should propel the administration to join the congressional initiatives to preserve Medicare. Instead, the April 1 deadline for this year's trustees report has come and gone with no White House action. It seems the White House is employing stalling tactics and stonewalling Medicare reform rather than saving the program. I urge the President to shelve the excuses, produce the report and join with the efforts currently underway in Congress to save Medicare now. Our Nation's seniors and others dependent on Medicare cannot tolerate the same White House failures to fix Medicare that we have endured for the last 4 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 1, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall votes 141 through 145.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on votes 141, 142, 144, and 145. I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 143.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 THING THAT WILL NOT DIE—REPUBLICANS' PLAN TO CUT EDUCATION

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, increasingly the extreme agenda of the gen-

tleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] and his leadership team reminds me of a bad 1950's B movie plot: The thing that would not die. They continue to resurrect bad ideas that have rightfully been shot down because in fact they have hurt working families in this country.

The latest example of a bad idea that will not stay dead is the House Republicans' plan to cut education.

It was only about 2 weeks ago when Speaker GINGRICH and other congressional Republicans waved the white flag and surrendered their extreme position on cutting education. They proposed making the deepest cuts in the history of public education in this Nation, totaling \$3.1 billion, and it took the outrage of parents and teachers and students at the grassroots level in addition to the determination of the President, of the congressional Democrats, to force Republican leadership to stop this wrongheaded attitude and attack on our Nation's future.

But let me say that parents do not rest easy. No sooner do we think that this bad idea is dead and buried, that then it finds new life.

Yesterday House Majority Leader DICK ARMEY proposed cutting education to pay for the repeal of the gas tax. I quote:

But the fact of the matter is, given our ability to contain the cost of energy and give tax relief, maybe we ought to take another look at the amount of money we are spending on education.

Direct quote: I watched the program.

Now I support a cut in the gas tax and would vote for such a thing. But who is going to get the benefit of it? Is the consumer going to get the 4.3 cents, or is that money going to go into the pockets of big oil?

That is what the danger is here, and what is going to get cut in order to pay for that tax cut? The last thing I want to see is a political game being played that does not really save the consumers any money in the end.

Is it not funny that when the increase, when it goes up, when the stock market goes up in its price, and the gas prices go up at the pump, when that goes down, when the stock market goes down, is it not funny that the gas prices for consumers and for families grudgingly comes down and takes a very, very long time for it to do it?

If we are going to cut the gas tax, then we should have the big oil companies pay for that gas tax cut and not education programs that serve working families in this country.

The other thing that we ought to consider at the same time is how come the prices rose so quickly, how come all the prices went up at the exact same time with the exact amount of increase? Is not that strange?

Let us take a look at and investigate that portion of this debate.

Let me just say that instead of cutting corporate pork the gentleman from the big oil State of Texas proposes cutting education for our kids to

pay for a tax cut that will have resulted in a major windfall for the wealthy oil barons in this Nation.

We all know that education holds the key to the American dream for the progress of working families in this country, yet the extreme agenda of the Republican revolution calls for devastating cuts in education. Their bill last year would have cut basic skills training, reading, writing, arithmetic by 17 percent.

The Republican majority tried last year to cut safe and drug-free schools by 57 percent, which would have denied 23 million children in this country these common-sense protections.

The extremists would have proposed killing President Bush's bipartisan Goals 2000 initiative which is helping 44 million children nationwide raise the standards of their educational performance, and in an age when tuition costs for college are going through the roof, the majority attempted to roll back direct student loans which would have denied 1,200 schools and 2.5 million students the opportunity to participate in this initiative that makes college more affordable for working families in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I think the Republican leader's advisers must have been too close to the gas fumes when they told him to propose that one. Hard-working American families struggle and scrimp every simple day to provide educational opportunities for their kids. They know, no one knows better than them, that in today's economy what you earn depends on what you learn.

So these middle-class folks take responsibility for their families, and maybe they do not take that vacation, and maybe they do not buy expensive clothes. We should honor their sacrifice. Let us help working families play by the rules. Help them get their kids a good education. Let us not give a tax break and pork to the special interests. Let us help working families and not cut education programs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN] is recognized for 60 minutes.

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

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legis-

lative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. GOSS) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes each day on May 7, 8, 9, and 10.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MONTGOMERY) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. CARDIN.
Mr. SERRANO in two instances.
Mr. POMEROY.
Ms. HARMAN.
Mrs. LINCOLN.
Mr. SKELTON.
Mr. CYNERS.
Mr. LANTOS.
Mrs. KENNELLY.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1720. An act to establish the Nicodemus National Historic Site and the New Bedford National Historic Landmark; to the Committee on Resources.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2064. An act to grant the consent of Congress to an amendment of the Historic Chattahoochee Compact between the States of Alabama and Georgia.

H.R. 2243. An act to amend the Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Act of 1984, to extend for three years the availability of moneys for the restoration of fish and wildlife in the Trinity River, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 7, 1996, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2800. A letter from the Chief, Forest Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Disposal of National Forest System Timber;

Modification of Timber Sale Contracts in Extraordinary Conditions (Interim Final Rule) (RIN: 0596-AB58) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2801. A letter from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting the Comptroller's final rule—Community Reinvestment Act Regulations (RIN: 1557-AB51) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2802. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of Thrift Supervision, transmitting the Office's final rule—Community Reinvestment Act Regulations (RIN: 1557-AB51) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2803. A letter from the Executive Director, Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, transmitting the final report of the Assistant General Counsel for Professional Liability of the RTC, also the final report on Coordinated Pursuit of Claims for the period concluding December 31, 1995, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1441a(w)(10)(C) and 12 U.S.C. 1441a(b)(11)(G); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2804. A letter from the Executive Director, Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, transmitting a report on the activities and efforts of the RTC, the FDIC, and the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board for the 3-month period ending December 31, 1995, pursuant to Public Law 101-73, section 501(a) (103 Stat. 387); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2805. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy Management Staff, Office of Policy Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medical Devices; Temporary Suspension of Approval of a Premarket Approval Application (RIN: 0910-AA09) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Commerce.

2806. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Monitoring Requirements for Public Drinking Water Supplies: Cryptosporidium, Giardia, Viruses, Disinfection Byproducts, Water Treatment Plant Data and Other Information Requirements (FLR-5501-1) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2807. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Amendment to Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources; Small Industrial-Commercial-Institutional Steam Generating Units (FLR-5467-8) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2808. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Adjustment of Reid Vapor Pressure Lower Limit for Reformulated Gasoline Sold in the State of California (FLR-5501-3) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2809. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Revision to the State Implementation Plan [SIP] Addressing Visible Emissions (FLR-5468-2) received May 2, 1996,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2810. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Attainment Extensions for PM-10 Nonattainment Areas: Idaho (FLR-5500-4) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2811. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Clomazone; Pesticide Tolerance (PP 5E4521/R2230) (FLR-5364-9) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2812. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Avermectin B1 and Its Delta-8, 9-Isomers; Extension of Time-Limited Tolerances (PP 4E4419/R2236) (FLR-5366-8) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2813. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Fenoxaprop-Ethyl; Extension of Study Due Date and Time-Limited Tolerances (PP 9F3714/R2214) (FLR-5354-1) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2814. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Lactofen; Pesticide Tolerance (PP 4E4418/R2231) (FLR-5365-1) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2815. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plan; Illinois (FLR-5436-1) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2816. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Illinois (FLR-5464-1) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2817. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Extremely Hazardous Substances (FLR-5468-5) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2818. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, Placer County Air Pollution Control District and Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (FLR-5456-9) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2819. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Ohio (FLR-5467-3) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2820. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Utah; Emission Statement Regulation, Ozone Nonattainment Area, Designation, Definition (FLR-5468-8) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2821. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (FRL-5464-2) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2822. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District, South Coast Air Quality Management District (direct final) (FRL-5466-1) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2823. A letter from the Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Implementation of Section 204(a) and 204(c) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Broadcast License Renewal Procedures) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2824. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of a proposed manufacturing license agreement for production of major military equipment with Korea (Transmittal No. DTC-17-96), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(d); to the Committee on International Relations.

2825. A letter from the Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, transmitting the Bureau's final rule—Removal of Certain Restrictions on Importation of Defense Articles and Defense Services from the Russian Federation (27 CFR part 47) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

2826. A letter from the Executive Director, District of Columbia Retirement Board, transmitting the personal financial disclosure statements of Board members, pursuant to D.C. Code, section 1-732 and 1-734(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2827. A letter from the NARA Regulatory Policy Official, National Archives, transmitting the Archives' final rule—Disposition of Federal Records (RIN: 3095-AA65) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2828. A letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting notification that it is in the public interest to use procedures other than full and open competition to award a particular Department of the Interior program, pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 253(c)(7); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

2829. A letter from the Chief, Forest Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Smith River National Recreation Area (RIN: 0596-AB39) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

2830. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Amendment to

Requirements for Authorized State Permit Programs under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (FLR-5500-9) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2831. A letter from the Associate Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, transmitting the Institute's final rule—Grant Funds—Materials Science and Engineering Laboratory—Availability of Funds (RIN: 0693-ZA02) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

2832. A letter from the Associate director, National Institute of Standards and Technology, transmitting the Institute's final rule—Continuation of Fire Research Grants Program—Availability of Funds (RIN: 0963-ZA06) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

2833. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—VA Acquisition Regulations: Loan Guaranty and Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling Programs (RIN: 2900-AG65) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

2834. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—Delegation of Authority to Order Advertising for Use in Recruitment (RIN: 2900-AH74) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

2835. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—Servicemen's and Veterans' Group Life Insurance (RIN: 2900-AH50) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

2836. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Revenue Ruling 96-26—received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

2837. A letter from the Deputy Under Secretary for Environmental Security, Department of Defense, transmitting an interim summary report on the DOD Environmental Scholarships and Fellowships Programs, pursuant to Public Law 102-484, section 4451(j) (106 Stat. 2737) and Public Law 103-160, section 1333(h)(2) (107 Stat. 1800); jointly, to the Committees on National Security and Economic and Educational Opportunities.

2838. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled the "Statistical Confidentiality Act"; jointly, to the Committees on Government Reform and Oversight, Commerce, the Judiciary, Science, and Economic and Educational Opportunities.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

(The following action occurred on May 3, 1996)

Mr. ARCHER: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 3286. A bill to help families defray adoption costs, and to promote the adoption of minority children; with an amendment (Rept. 104-542,

Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Submitted May 6, 1996]

Mr. MOORHEAD: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1861. A bill to make technical corrections in the Satellite Home Viewer Act of 1994 and other provisions of title 17, United States Code; with an amendment (Rept. 104-554). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MCCOLLUM: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2137. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to require the release of relevant information to protect the public from sexually violent offenders; with an amendment (Rept. 104-555). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MOORHEAD: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2511. A bill to control and prevent commercial counterfeiting, and for other purposes (Rept. 104-556). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MCCOLLUM: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2980. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to stalking; with an amendment (Rept. 104-557). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. MOORHEAD: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1734. A bill to reauthorize the National Film Preservation Board, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 104-558 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. THOMAS: Committee on House Oversight. House Resolution 417. Resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Select Subcommittee on the United States Role in Iranian Arms Transfers to Croatia and Bosnia of the Committee on International Relations in the second session of the 104th Congress; with an amendment (Rept. 104-559). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X the following action was taken by the Speaker: The Committees on Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, and National Security discharged from further consideration; H.R. 3322 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

(The following action occurred on May 6, 1996)

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 1734. Referral to the Committee on House Oversight extended for a period ending not later than June 21, 1996.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. MILLER of California, and Mr. BROWN of California):

H.R. 3392. A bill to require a separate, unclassified statement of the aggregate amount of budget outlays for intelligence activities; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TANNER (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. STENHOLM, and Mr. PAYNE of Virginia):

H. Res. 425. Resolution providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2915) to enhance support and work opportunities for families with children, reduce welfare dependence and control welfare spending; to the Committee on Rules.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 931: Mr. SHAYS.

H.R. 940: Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.

H.R. 1023: Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.

H.R. 2137: Mr. RAMSTAD.

H.R. 2167: Mr. NADLER, Mrs. VUCANOVICH, and Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.

H.R. 2749: Mr. STUMP and Mr. MANZULLO.

H.R. 3170: Mr. LAZIO of New York and Mrs. ROUKEMA.

H.R. 3173: Mr. WAXMAN.

H.R. 3246: Mrs. KENNELLY.

H.R. 3268: Mr. GUNDERSON, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, Mr. RIGGS, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. BALLENGER, Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas, Mr. GRAHAM, AND Mr. KNOLLENBERG.

H.R. 3310: Mr. NEUMANN and Mr. ISTOOK.

H.J. Res. 178: Mr. ZIMMER and Mr. BLUTE.

H. Con. Res. 160: Mr. CASTLE, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. BEREUTER, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. THOMPSON, Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas, Mr. WALKER, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. DIXON, Mr. SHAW, Mr. FALCOMAVAEGA, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DEL-LUMS, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. BLUTE, and Mr. STUDDS.

H. Res. 30: Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. WILLIAMS, and Mr. CHABOT.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 6 of rule XXIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 2974

OFFERED BY: MS. SLAUGHTER

AMENDMENT No. 1: Add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 3. FEDERAL JURISDICTION OVER RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES.

Section 2241 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) PUNISHMENT FOR SEXUAL PREDATORS.— (1) Whoever, in a circumstance described in paragraph (2) of this subsection—

“(A) violates this section; or

“(B) engages in conduct that would violate this section, if the conduct had occurred in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, and—

“(i) that conduct is in interstate or foreign commerce;

“(ii) the person engaging in that conduct crossed a State line with intent to engage in the conduct; or

“(iii) the person engaging in that conduct thereafter engages in conduct that is a violation of section 1073(1) with respect to an offense that consists of the conduct so engaged in;

shall be imprisoned for life.

“(2) The circumstance referred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection is that the defendant has previously been convicted of another State or Federal offense for conduct which—

“(A) is an offense under this section or section 2242 of this title; or

“(B) would have been an offense under either of such sections if the offense had occurred in the special maritime or territorial jurisdiction of the United States.”.