

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 30, 1998.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on Friday, January 30, 1998 at 10:03 a.m.: that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3042.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE, *Clerk.*

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, January 15, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: It is with very mixed feelings that I write to you to tender my resignation from the House of Representatives, effective at the close of business on Friday, February 6, 1998. After so many years of watching my family's sacrifice, in the interests of public service, I find that the requirements of being more available to them now press very hard upon me. Therefore, I will leave the House and turn my attention to these pressing matters.

Serving in the House has been a profound honor, both because it has allowed me to share in the traditions and history of the House and because of the incredible district that I was honored to represent in the House chamber. I will miss my many colleagues and the opportunity to contribute so directly to the governance of our nation. I leave with a sense of significant accomplishment, as well as with the optimism with which I entered the chamber for the first time in 1971. I will value our friendship and the challenging debate that we have engaged in over these many years.

Mr. Speaker, I wish you well and extend through you my very best wishes to all of our colleagues.

Sincerely yours,

RONALD V. DELLUMS,
Member of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 27, 1998.

Gov. PETE WILSON,
State Capitol,
Sacramento, CA.

DEAR GOVERNOR WILSON: I write to you pursuant to California law to advise you that I will resign my office, Representative in Congress, 9th California District, effective at the close of business on February 6, 1998. I have similarly advised the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I appreciate and have been honored by the opportunity to have served the people of the State of California in the United States Congress.

Sincerely yours,

RONALD V. DELLUMS,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE
HENRY BONILLA, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable Henry Bonilla, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 2, 1998.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that my office has been served with a subpoena (for written testimony and documents) issued by the 63rd District Court for Val Verde County, Texas, and directed to the "Custodian of Records, United States of Representatives."

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House and, therefore, that the subpoena should be resisted.

Sincerely,

HENRY BONILLA,
Member of Congress.

A LEOPARD CANNOT CHANGE HIS
SPOTS

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, it is often said that a leopard cannot change his spots. It must also be said of Bill Clinton that he cannot stop his bad habits, the most obvious of those habits being his propensity to tax and spend.

The President's budget submission is a reaffirmation of this administration's commitment to a bigger government and a heavier tax burden for working Americans. The President's budget includes close to \$100 billion in new taxes to pay for close to \$100 billion in bigger government.

The American people do not want new taxes and they do not want new government programs. They want a smaller and smarter government that takes less of their money and works more effectively for their families. This is not the time to increase taxes. This is the time to cut taxes. The President's budget is a disappointment, but not a surprise. One cannot expect a leopard to change its spots and one cannot expect President Clinton to embrace the concepts of a smaller and smarter Federal Government.

KARLA FAYE TUCKER DESERVES
THE DEATH PENALTY

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Karla Faye Tucker, who is scheduled to be executed tonight, has asked for clemency. This is the same Karla Faye Tucker who brutally murdered two helpless victims with a pick ax, no less.

At that trial, Karla Faye testified, and I quote, that she "enjoyed every single killing stroke" and that she knowingly did not pay any attention to the screams and pleas of her dying victims.

But now, Karla Faye has found the Lord and she begs for mercy. Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. Who now speaks for the innocent victims of Karla Faye Tucker? I say good night, sweet princess. Karla Faye Tucker has deserved the death penalty. She earned it with every single enjoyable killing stroke on those helpless victims.

Think about it. An America that tolerates and coddles murderers will continue to have them.

COMPETITION IN
COMMUNICATIONS

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

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, there are critics of Congress and the Communications Act of 1996 who say our efforts to bring competition to the American people have failed. Now, Mr. Speaker, we know that Rome was not built in one day. We also know, thanks to this act, we are seeing competition in this industry sprout like a budding flower on a spring morning.

This act is working, Mr. Speaker. Almost 300 companies have been certified as local carriers in the territory just covered by Bell South. What we need now is for industry to completely honor the intent of the act and for the regulators, both Federal and as well as local regulators, to move as quickly as possible to implement this act the way Congress intended it to be.

Mr. Speaker, let us bring real choice, cheaper prices, and one-stop shopping to all consumers as soon as possible.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
INTEGRITY ACT

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

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to offer legislation that will restore the integrity of the final resting place for many of our veterans at Arlington National Cemetery. In recent months we have heard about 69 non-veterans who were granted waivers by the Secretary of the Army to be buried in Arlington over the last 6 years. We also heard allegations that campaign donations may have influenced the waiver process.

While an investigation by the GAO found no wrongdoing, the need for tightened standards has become evident.

That is why today I am introducing the Arlington National Cemetery Integrity Act, which will put into law the current regulations allowing veterans, certain family members, and a few distinguished government officials who

have served on active duty to be interred at the cemetery. This bill will end the practice of granting waivers and legally clarify once and for all who may be buried at Arlington Cemetery.

Being laid to rest at Arlington is the last honor we can bestow upon our veterans. The Arlington National Cemetery Integrity Act will provide this honor for veterans for years and years to come.

THE CLINTON BUDGET: A RETURN TO BIG GOVERNMENT

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, remember when President Clinton told us that the era of big government is over? Well, apparently he has had a change of heart, because his latest budget proposal is a true monument to big government excess. Billions and billions and billions in new taxes, and billions and billions and billions in new Federal spending. So much for presidential promises, welcome back, big government.

This Congress cannot and will not accept a return to the tax and spend days of old. Because the taxpayers in 1994 installed a new majority in Congress, family income is up, interest rates are down, unemployment is down, and tax relief is finally on the way. And the budget will soon show a surplus for the first time in a generation. It is no time to turn back the clock.

Mr. Speaker, the President's budget completely ignores last year's balanced budget agreement by creating a variety of new spending programs and a host of new taxes. That is not what the taxpayers had in mind. Let us balance the budget. Let us cut taxes, let us do it now.

DEATH PENALTY

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, tonight Karla Faye Tucker may well be executed. But whether Ms. Tucker lives or dies, her case is making the country think more reflectively about the death penalty.

The moral bankruptcy of adopting death and violence to conquer death and violence has not been lost on our moral leaders, such as the Catholic Church, and the American people are beginning to appreciate the futility of execution. Given a choice, most people would choose life without parole, plus restitution to the victim's family, over the death penalty.

In the Senate, there is a bill that few Americans would condone to impose the death penalty on the District despite a referendum and a council vote to the contrary.

Karla Faye Tucker's Christian conversion has drawn her much support.

May her faith convert us all from selective Christianity when it comes to the death penalty.

AN ORDINARY HERO

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan said, we all have the right to dream heroic dreams. Those who say we are in a time when there are no heroes just do not now where to look. We can see heroes every day going in and out of factory gates. Others, a handful of them, produce enough food to feed all of us and then the world beyond. We meet heroes across the counter and they are on both sides of that counter. They are entrepreneurs with faith in themselves and faith in a new idea who create jobs, new wealth, new opportunity. They are individuals and families whose taxes support the government and whose voluntary gifts support church, charity, art and education. Their patriotism is quiet, but deep. Their values sustain our national life.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Reagan believed in us, in our capacity to perform great deeds. He was the American President in the American century. It is altogether fitting that we rename our National Airport after him.

THE AMERICAN DREAM FOR ALL

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if my colleagues on the other side of the aisle heard the same message that I heard and the American people heard at the State of the Union, and as well, at the budget presentation that was made by the President just yesterday; that is, that we have the first balanced budget in the history of this Nation in the last 30 years.

In addition, let me offer to say to my colleagues that the point is how the American people perceive the next decade and the 21st century. Are my colleagues to tell me that the American people do not want real, viable and trustworthy child care; that we are not suffering from the crumbling schools around the Nation; that we do not want to emphasize education and opportunities for higher education for those moving from welfare to work? I think not.

Mr. Speaker, a 79 percent approval rating after the State of the Union indicates that the American people want action. Yes, they want a balanced budget, but they also want to go into the future, standing tall. They want an increase in the minimum wage. Yes, they want the same things that those who make \$200,000 and up have in this country. They want the American dream.

So I say to my colleagues, follow the American people, and if you cannot, get out of the way, because we have a balanced budget and we have a vision for the 21st century.

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RENAMING NATIONAL AIRPORT FOR PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, former President Ronald Reagan never lobbied personally for his place in history. This kind of self-confident leadership style is often missed in Washington, today more than ever.

It is a travesty that partisan politics has entered into what should be a bipartisan tribute to this great man. Whether my colleagues agree or disagree with Ronald Reagan's philosophy, I doubt that anyone can question Reagan's great love for this Nation and his dedication to his role as the leader of the free world.

People from around the world visit our Nation's capital each year. We need to show them the enormous sense of pride that all America takes in honoring his legacy. In an era where partisan politics have so often replaced open and honest debate, the time has come to say enough is enough. For once, just once, let us put aside our egos and with this simple but grand gesture pay tribute to this great man who is so deserving.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2625 when it comes before the House Floor tomorrow.

MEDICARE VENIPUNCTURE SENIORS PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Medicare Venipuncture Seniors Protection Act. This bill will delay the implementation of a section in the Balanced Budget Act which changes the Medicare coverage for venipuncture, or the drawing of blood.

By delaying the implementation of this provision for 18 months, we will be able to study the impact of this change on the elderly and the frail more closely. I fear that, without closer examination, we may make a rash decision which could be devastating to the health care needs of many of our country's seniors.

I fully support eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse from the Medicare program, but throwing the baby out with the bath water is not the answer, and that is exactly what the change in venipuncture coverage may do.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join with me in fighting to make sure