

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY,
MARCH 2, 1999

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, March 1, 1999, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 2, 1999, for morning hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

TASK FORCE AGUILA

(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, General George Patton once said, "There is no limit to what you can accomplish, if you don't care who gets the credit."

This quote is very fitting for the 5,000 men and women of Task Force Aguila, who left their homes and loved ones during the holidays last year to provide humanitarian relief to the victims of Hurricane Mitch.

As members of the Task Force prepare to end their mission, I feel it is important to take note of the following. Mr. Speaker, there are many accomplishments of our U.S. military in Central America that are not known by my colleagues here or, for that matter, most Americans; like the over 15,000 sick and injured people that were treated and cared for, the delivery of almost 2,000 tons of food and other humanitarian aid, millions of gallons of water purified, and the miles and miles of roads repaired and washed out bridges rebuilt.

All of these will be lasting reminders of the goodwill and ambassadorship provided by every airman, soldier and Marine as part of our U.S. diplomacy there.

I rise today to express my thanks and give national recognition to our Armed Forces for a job well done.

COMPARABLE TREATMENT OF
FEDERAL WORKERS, MEMBERS
OF CONGRESS, AND THE PRESI-
DENT DURING FEDERAL GOV-
ERNMENT SHUTDOWN

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, in the past when we shut the Federal Government down, the government employees were not paid but Members of Congress and the President and the Senate of course were. So today I am introducing legislation to provide for comparable treatment of Federal employees, Members of Congress, and the President if there is a Federal Government shutdown.

I think, in good conscience, if we are asking our Federal employees to suffer the consequences, then we in this House should, too. Maybe we would think more carefully about shutting this place down. If my colleagues believe, as I do, that it is only right and just that we also forgo our paychecks, then I hope they will join with me in asking Congress and the President to put our paychecks where our values are and not expect special treatment in the event we shut the Federal Government down. Show their support for Federal workers by cosponsoring my bill, which I intend to drop this morning. I look forward to the support of my colleagues.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE
ON THE BUDGET REGARDING IN-
TERIM BUDGET ALLOCATIONS
AND AGGREGATES FOR FISCAL
YEARS 1999-2003

The SPEAKER. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio, Mr. KASICH, is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 2 of House Resolution 5, I submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD interim budget aggregates and allocations for fiscal year 1999 and for the period of fiscal years 1999 through fiscal year 2003.

These interim levels will be used to enforce sections 302(f), 303(a) and 311(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. Section 303(a) prohibits the consideration of legislation that provides new budget authority or changes in revenues until Congress has agreed to a budget resolution for the appropriate fiscal year. Sections 302(f) and 311(a) prohibit the consideration of legislation that exceeds the appropriate budgetary levels set forth in budget resolution and the accompanying report.

Without these interim levels, the House would be prohibited under section 303(a) of the Budget Act from considering legislation with even negligible budgetary effects in certain fiscal years because a budget resolution is not in effect for the current fiscal year. There would be no levels to make determinations under sections 302(f) and 311(a) for fiscal year 1999 and such determinations for the five year period would be based on the now-obsolete levels set forth under H. Con. Res. 84 (H. Rept. 105-116) in 1997.

The interim allocations and aggregates are essentially based on current status levels. They reflect enacted and House-passed legislation as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). In the case of the Committee on Appropriations, the allocations are identical to the levels set forth in H. Res. 477 (H. Rept. 105-585) except that they reflect adjustments for emergencies, arrearages and other items under section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act.

These levels are effective until they are superseded by a conference report on the current budget resolution.

If there are any questions on these interim allocations and aggregates, please contact Jim Bates, Chief Counsel of the Budget Committee, at ext. 6-7270.

ALLOCATIONS OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO HOUSE COMMITTEES
[Committees other than Appropriations]

Committee		Budget year					Total 1999-2003
		1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
Agriculture Committee:							
	Current Law	BA 17,337	9,727	8,499	6,967	2,738	45,268
		OT 14,885	5,927	5,729	4,374	51	30,966
	Reauthorizations	BA 0	0	0	0	28,328	28,328
		OT 0	0	0	0	27,801	27,801
	Total	BA 17,337	9,727	8,499	6,967	31,066	73,596
		OT 15,885	5,927	5,729	4,374	27,852	58,767
Armed Services Committee:							
	Current Law	BA 47,809	49,218	50,895	52,579	54,366	254,867
		OT 47,672	49,108	50,792	52,476	54,273	254,321
Banking and Financial Services Committee:							
	Current Law	BA 3,442	4,586	5,431	5,297	5,027	23,783
		OT 874	-2,016	-473	-24	186	-1,453
Committee on Education and the Workforce:							
	Current Law	BA 3,303	4,503	5,061	5,495	5,424	23,786
		OT 2,744	3,829	4,366	4,835	4,995	20,729
	Discretionary Action	BA 0	0	0	305	305	610
		OT 0	0	0	92	275	367
	Total	BA 3,303	4,503	5,061	5,800	5,729	24,396
		OT 2,744	3,829	4,366	4,927	5,270	21,096

ALLOCATIONS OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO HOUSE COMMITTEES—Continued
 [Committees other than Appropriations]

Committee		Budget year					Total 1999–2003
		1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
Commerce Committee:	OT	2,744	3,829	4,366	4,927	5,230	21,096
Current Law	BA	8,663	10,247	12,263	15,747	16,015	62,935
	OT	5,421	8,351	10,963	16,458	16,942	58,135
International Relations Committee:	BA	10,924	9,888	9,982	9,557	8,711	49,062
Current Law	OT	12,162	11,516	10,860	10,415	9,698	54,651
Government Reform Committee:	BA	57,886	59,661	61,516	63,577	65,822	308,462
Current Law	OT	56,644	48,365	60,164	62,174	64,396	301,743
Discretionary Action	BA	0	2	4	4	4	14
	OT	0	2	4	4	4	14
Total	BA	57,886	59,663	61,520	63,581	65,826	308,476
	OT	56,644	58,367	60,168	62,178	64,400	301,757
Committee on House Administration:	BA	93	90	90	90	93	456
Current Law	OT	56	262	49	13	57	437
Resources Committee:	BA	2,296	2,391	2,370	2,319	2,351	11,727
Current Law	OT	2,253	2,254	2,332	2,205	2,326	11,370
Judiciary Committee:	BA	4,759	4,548	4,550	4,539	4,631	23,027
Current Law	OT	4,578	4,371	4,461	4,617	4,622	22,649
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee:	BA	49,121	48,697	49,721	50,714	51,714	249,967
Current Law	OT	16,114	16,021	16,026	15,834	15,722	79,717
Discretionary Action	BA	1,205	2,410	2,410	2,410	2,410	10,845
	OT	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	BA	50,326	51,107	52,131	53,124	54,124	260,812
	OT	16,114	16,021	16,026	15,834	15,722	79,717
Science Committee:	BA	38	38	35	32	32	175
Current Law	OT	33	36	36	36	34	175
Small Business Committee:	BA	-414	0	0	0	0	-414
Current Law	OT	-585	-156	-140	-125	-110	-1,116
Veterans' Affairs Committee:	BA	1,182	1,144	1,077	990	931	5,324
Current Law	OT	1,296	1,358	1,331	1,316	1,355	6,656
Discretionary Action	BA	0	394	874	1,367	1,868	4,503
	OT	0	360	833	1,325	1,824	4,342
Total	BA	1,182	1,538	1,951	2,357	2,799	9,827
	OT	1,296	1,718	1,644	2,641	3,179	10,998
Ways and Means Committee:	BA	671,063	676,265	692,412	705,685	728,575	3,474,000
Current Law	OT	659,770	666,279	684,407	696,184	721,486	3,428,126
Reauthorizations	BA	0	0	0	0	19,553	19,553
	OT	0	0	0	0	17,312	17,312
Discretionary Action	BA	0	-2	0	0	0	-2
	OT	0	-2	0	0	0	-2
Total	BA	671,063	676,263	692,412	705,685	728,575	3,473,998
	OT	659,770	666,277	684,407	696,184	721,486	3,428,124

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON 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 Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BEREUTER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

UNITED STATES NEEDS TO FOCUS ON INDONESIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, one aspect of livable communities is the global connections that we are facing today as trade interrelates our economies, world peace is affected as one destabilized area can have serious consequences for others, how environmental exploitation has global consequences for us all as we have increasingly destructive capacity in an increasingly smaller world.

There is need for people who care about livable communities to focus on Indonesia, focus across four time zones, over 15,000 islands, and a population of over 210 million people. It is a spectacular, diverse, and extremely vulnerable region. It is one in political transition, moving from three political parties and really no Democratic election in the last 40 years, to approaching over 150 and its first election in two generations this June.

We have seen in East Timor, home of tragic violence, as it was invaded by the Indonesian military 25 years ago, we have seen the death of over 200,000 people in an island that still has only perhaps a population of 800,000 and a situation that cries for a peaceful resolution.

Indonesia is a nation of great financial turmoil today. Less than 2 years ago, it was one of those successful Asian financial tigers, so successful that we were on the verge of withdrawing our aid programs. Today, it is now an economic basket case, with half its population at or below the Indonesian poverty level and virtually not a single solvent financial institution in the entire country.

We have seen long simmering racial, ethnic and religious tensions bubble to the surface, aggravated by the serious economic difficulties that have led to the death of hundreds of its citizens.

Indonesia was the backdrop for the movie "The Year Of Living Dangerously" a third of a century ago when Sukarno lost power to Suharto.

Today, in the post-Suharto era, Indonesia is still living dangerously. We have serious potential for violence even as the ray of hope dawns on East Timor and the government is talking about a potential for independence. Yet at the same time there is pervasive evidence that the military has provided weapons to paramilitary agents on the island, and there could be the potential for bloodshed upon their withdrawal.

There continues to be the potential for violence in Indonesia's urban centers, and there is definitely violence that is being visited upon its ecology as the nation struggles to get economic gain at the expense of its forests, fishing stock, coral reefs and endangered species.

I sincerely hope that my colleagues will put Indonesia on the radar screen. It will be on the radar screen for the administration and for the American public. It is time for the United States to take a strong and aggressive action to help resolve the situation in East Timor so that the potential news of the military withdrawal is not an open invitation for greater bloodshed against the Timorees.

It is important that our Secretary of State, who is due to visit Indonesia