

mean that only a Member of the Committee on Ways and Means of the majority or minority party can control the time?

Mr. DREIER. It is not our intention to make that decision as far as recognition. It will be up to the Chair. Again, there are Members of both the majority and the minority on the Committee on Ways and Means who are on both sides of this question, but it is clear that another Member could be recognized. In fact, the author of the resolution of disapproval is not, in fact, a Member of the Committee on Ways and Means, and it is quite possible that he could be recognized.

Ms. PELOSI. I thank the gentleman for his clarification.

Mr. DREIER. I thank the gentleman for yielding and would encourage acceptance of my unanimous consent request and again look forward to a vigorous debate.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

#### ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JULY 26, 1999

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

#### DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. DREIER. 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 California?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

#### WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 507) to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 798

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 798.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

#### PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1074, REGULATORY RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT OF 1999

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 258 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

#### H. RES. 258

*Resolved*, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1074) to provide Government-wide accounting of regulatory costs and benefits, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Government Reform now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII and except pro forma amendments for the purpose of debate. Each amendment so printed may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or his designee and shall be considered as read. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a

substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

□ 1745

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During the consideration of this amendment, all time is yielded for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us is a modified open rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 1074, the Regulatory Right-To-Know Act of 1999.

This open rule provides for 1 hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform.

The rule provides that it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purposes of amendment under the 5-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Government Reform now printed in the bill.

The bill provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be open for amendment at any point.

The rule provides for the consideration of only those amendments preprinted in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, which may be offered only by the Member who caused it to be printed or that designee, and pro forma amendments offered for the purpose of debate only.

The rule allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill and to reduce voting time to 5 minutes on a postponed question if the vote follows a 15-minute vote.

Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, the underlying legislation, the Regulatory Right-to-Know Act is important legislation. The purpose of this legislation is to increase public awareness about the costs and benefits of Federal regulations to increase accountability of the government and to improve the Federal program and rules.

The bill achieves these goals by requiring the Office of Management and Budget to prepare an annual accounting statement containing cost and benefit estimates of Federal regulatory programs.

Furthermore, this report would require an analysis of the cumulative impact of regulations on various sectors and functional areas, including the private sector.

The Regulatory Right-To-Know Act is yet another significant step towards making this government more efficient and more accountable. A more efficient and accountable government provides