

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

What we see is that it is another example of bipartisan support of people who are working together in Washington, D.C., the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE), the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), myself, we are trying to work together on these important issues that are important not only to people, but people who anticipate and expect that Republicans and Democrats alike are able to craft our business in a way that we can be successful.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

(Mr. ANDREWS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of both the rule and the bill because I appreciate the work that Chairman KOLBE and ranking member HOYER have done. I do want to note for the record my objections to one very unfortunate decision the conference made with respect to the issue of children's sleepwear.

In 1972, the Consumer Product Safety Commission adopted a rule which required clear understandable labeling for children's sleepwear, so before you put your infant to bed, you would have to know if the sleepwear was flame retardant or not. That is a standard that was lauded by emergency room physicians, nurses, arson investigators, firefighters around our country for a long time. It worked.

In 1996, for inexplicable reasons, that standard was loosened and weakened by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Working with the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) and the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), I was able to have included in the House version of this bill an amendment which effectively banned the import of children's sleepwear that did not have that safe labeling provision.

I appreciate the efforts of the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) to cooperate with us in that respect and their efforts in conference. I regret the fact that the result of the conference was not satisfactory on that.

I will support this bill, nevertheless, because of its basic merits, but I would call upon the Speaker and others in leadership in this House to permit us to bring to the floor a freestanding bill that lets us have a fair debate as to whether or not this important children's sleepwear standard should, once again, become the law.

That is the proper forum for this. Just as strongly as I would urge passage of this bill, I would urge a fair

procedure so that America's firefighters and arson investigators and nurses and emergency room physicians can be heard, and so that America's children can once again be protected.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to once again thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) not only for his judiciousness in the handling of this important matter, but also for making himself available if we needed him.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2490 and that I may include tabular and extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2490, TREASURY AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the rule just adopted, I call up the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2490) making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain independent agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 291, the conference report is considered as having been read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of September 14, 1999, at page H8201.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE).

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today, along with the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), to present to the House the conference report on the fiscal year 2000 Treasury and General Government Appropriations bill. This is a bill that not only meets the commitment we have made to the Amer-

ican people to reform modernize the Internal Revenue Service, but one that continues to strengthen our support for Federal law enforcement, to protect our borders against drugs, and to prosecute violations of our gun laws.

Mr. Speaker, before I begin, I would just like to say that I think that the staff always plays an essential role in preparing and supporting the committee at all stages of its annual appropriations bills, and I am surrounded today by the very valuable staff that has made this work very possible, and it is true also of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) whose staff is on the way.

I want to pay special tribute if I might to one individual, our congressional fellow, Clif Morehead, who leaves us at year end, having performed exemplary service for the House of Representatives. Clif has worked for this subcommittee for the past year, and after serving a year in the personal office of my distinguished ranking member, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), Clif will be leaving the committee to return to his work as a special agent with the U.S. Secret Service.

Clif has been a terrific asset to this subcommittee, bringing not only his experience and insight into Federal law enforcement from his Secret Service career, but also his understanding of how Congress and the Federal agencies operate from his previous work on defense issues, and as a Marine Corps officer.

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Whether it has been preparing for the hearings, doing the in-depth research, briefings, planning and organizing committee travel, including a very informative trip that we participated in to review counterdrug efforts in the Andes earlier this year, to the drafting and negotiations of the bill and its report, Clif has been an invaluable staff member. I am grateful for his hard work.

Mr. Speaker, the Treasury Appropriations Subcommittee will soon bid farewell to our Congressional Fellow, Clifton D. Morehead, as he begins his next assignment as Special Agent for the U.S. Secret Service. Special Agent Morehead has proven himself to be tremendous asset to the work of this Subcommittee, bringing with him the experience he has gained with the Secret Service, as a business manager for Procter and Gamble, and as a Marine Corps officer. Clif began his fellowship in 1998 in the office of the distinguished ranking member of this subcommittee, STENY HOYER, where he served as his legislative assistant for defense policy and appropriations issues. Clif therefore arrived in this subcommittee with a strong background in the technical issues and folkways of the appropriations process.

Serving as a member of my subcommittee staff, Clif has brought a unique perspective to bear on many of the lively debates and sometimes convoluted issues we face as we craft this appropriation bill, and in overseeing the agencies and programs in our jurisdiction. In