

family and give them some tax reduction.

Today we passed the bill. After the contentious debate, hours on this floor, hours of hand-wringing, we actually got 268 votes for our proposal to eliminate the marriage penalty. Forty-eight Democrats and one Independent joined us. That is a bipartisan effort. I applaud those who had the courage to recognize the inequity of the Tax Code. Fifty-one thousand and twenty-one people in my district are paying a marriage penalty, and 1,176,000 throughout the great State of Florida are paying a marriage penalty.

We were on record today as moving forward to eliminate this tax burden on the average families who are working, who are struggling, who are providing for their children and their families in the districts in which they live.

Let us get out of the notion here in this Capital of Washington, D.C. that this is our money, because it is not. This money belongs to the taxpayers of America. Every chance we get, and I am telling the Members, seriously, we are working as a Congress on our side of the aisle to preserve social security, to preserve Medicare, to fix the problems.

Yes, we will meet, I am certain, in some accommodation on prescription drugs. I am certain of this. I know we need to do that. We will reach out in a bipartisan manner. But I have to tell the Members, I have just about had enough, because on some issues that are important to the other side of the aisle, this should be a bipartisan effort.

When we come to the floor on what we think is a bipartisan effort, 22 Democrats signed our bill, we would think there would be mutual admiration for the great work being done today. President Clinton, Vice President GORE, support some marriage penalty elimination. It is all the devil in the details. If it is not their bill, they are not happy and satisfied, and have to bellyache about the consequences.

Mr. Speaker, we will balance the budget. We will pay down the debt. We will shore up social security. We will fix Medicare. We will work on prescription drug coverage. We will also do the things that are necessary to help the American family, who are working oftentimes two jobs in order to make ends meet. We will work to make certain we have reached the threshold so they can at least have some of their own hard-earned money back in their pockets.

At the end of a 40-hour work, it is pretty difficult to go home and realize you have very little left after paying excise taxes, mortgage taxes. In fact, Mrs. Clinton today was shocked, shocked when she said, and I quote from the New York Times, "I can't believe how high taxes are on properties here in New York," since she just bought a house, the first one in well over 20 years.

Welcome to the real world. We are paying taxes all our lives. I have been

paying property taxes for decades. It is difficult. It is tough. Wake up. This is reality, so people do need a break.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. EVERETT (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of illness in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MORAN of Virginia) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. THURMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ALLEN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOLEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. METCALF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TOOMEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NETHERCUTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on the following date present to the President, for his approval, a bill of the House of the following title:

On February 9, 2000:

H.R. 2130. To amend the Controlled Substances Act to direct the emergency scheduling of gamma hydroxybutyric acid, to provide a national awareness campaign, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, February 14, 2000, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6117. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agri-

culture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Asian Longhorned Beetle; Addition to Quarantined Areas [Docket No. 00-004-1] received February 4, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6118. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket No. FEMA-7721] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6119. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket No. FEMA-7725] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6120. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6121. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-7308] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6122. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6123. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations—received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6124. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations—received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6125. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-7301] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6126. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Indirect Food Additives: Polymers [Docket No. 97F-0116] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

6127. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Santizers [Docket No. 99F-2534] received January 5, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

6128. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of State Plans For Designated Facilities and Pollutants: New Hampshire; Plan for Controlling Emissions From Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerators [Docket No. NH040-7167a; FRL-6532-2]