

Since 1993, that landmark legislation has allowed 35 million Americans to take time off from their jobs to be with children or ailing relatives without fear of losing their jobs. That is peace of mind for the American worker, and it is something that all workers need and deserve.

But even with FMLA in place, not all parents are taking the time off that is available to them. In fact, a recent study by the U.S. Department of Labor found that 88 percent of eligible employees who need time off do not take it because they cannot afford to go without a paycheck.

Scientific research shows that early bonding between parent and child is exceptionally critical to that child's future, to that child's success. Yet 83 percent of women who give birth are back to work within 6 months, and 70 percent of them say it is because they need the money.

Madam Speaker, America's children are paying the price for their parents' need to earn a living; and those parents are forced to choose between the needs of their children and putting food on the table. And that is not right.

The Family and Medical Leave Act has helped millions of families. But what we are finding out is there are millions more who are being left behind. It is time that the United States joined the more than 120 countries around the world that provide paid leave for new parents.

Let us face it, times are changing. If today's children are lucky enough to have two parents living with them, chances are that both parents are in the workforce and they work outside of the home. Parents are working hard. They are commuting long hours. And it is our children who are being left behind due to today's hectic lifestyles.

Studies find that parents are spending an average of 52 days a year less with their children than they did 30 years ago, 52 days a year less with their children.

We have to give parents the tools they need to bridge the gap between work and family, especially when there is a new baby in the home.

Along with Senator CHRIS DODD of Connecticut, I have, again with this Congress, introduced legislation to provide start-up funding for States that want to establish paid leave programs for new parents.

Already, my State of California offers new moms paid maternity leave through their State Disability Insurance. Women are eligible for up to 4 weeks of leave before delivery and 6 weeks after. That means a great deal for mothers. It means a lot to the newborns and the newly-adopted children. And, in the long-run, it will mean a great deal for the children as they grow up and become successful and are working on their futures.

But 10 weeks is not enough time. It is too short.

As a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I con-

tinue to work to make education our top priority. But I have come to realize that having the best schools and the best teachers in the world will not matter if kids are not ready to learn when they enter the classroom.

One thing that we need to do to help them be ready to learn is have them bond with their parents right after birth or right after adoption.

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As my cochair and I on the Democratic Caucus Task Force for Children came to the conclusion last year that part of our children's agenda was paid leave for new parents, we realize that it is more critical than ever to allow paid leave so that kids will get a good start.

Madam Speaker, parents want to be there for their children. Children are their number one priority. As a parent and a grandmother, I know how important those first weeks and months are to the parent and to the child. Let us show America's families, their parents and their children that the Family and Medical Leave Act was a good start but that these parents, these families, deserve more. Let us make paid leave for new parents a priority in this Congress.

Our children are 25 percent of our population, but they are 100 percent of our future.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H. J. Res. 7. Joint resolution recognizing the 90th birthday of Ronald Reagan.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105-83, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, announces the reappointment of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) as a member of the National Council on the Arts.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 2761 of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, appoints the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) as Co-Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the British-American Interparliamentary Group during the One Hundred Seventh Congress.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-550, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the following Senators to serve as members of the James Madison Commemoration Commission—

the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER); and

the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 106-398, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of the

following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on the Future of the United States Aerospace Industry—

William Schneider, Jr., of New York; and]

Robert J. Stevens, of Maryland.

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY 107TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I hereby submit the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary for the 107th Congress for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. These rules were adopted by the Committee on January 31, 2001, in a meeting that was open to the public.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, RULES OF PROCEDURE, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS, ADOPTED JANUARY 31, 2001

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE—ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH CONGRESS

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Wisconsin, *Chairman*, Henry J. Hyde, Illinois, George W. Gekas, Pennsylvania, Howard Coble, North Carolina, Lamar S. Smith, Texas, Elton Gallegly, California, Bob Goodlatte, Virginia, Steve Chabot, Ohio, Bob Barr, Georgia, William L. Jenkins, Tennessee, Asa Hutchinson, Arkansas, Chris Cannon, Utah, Lindsey O. Graham, South Carolina, Spencer Bachus, Alabama, Joe Scarborough, Florida, John N. Hostettler, Indiana, Mark Green, Wisconsin, Ric Keller, Florida, Darrell E. Issa, California, Melissa A. Hart, Pennsylvania, and Jeff Flake, Arizona.

John Conyers, Jr., Michigan, Barney Frank, Massachusetts, Howard L. Berman, California, Rick Boucher, Virginia, Jerrold Nadler, New York, Robert C. Scott, Virginia, Melvin L. Watt, North Carolina, Zoe Lofgren, California, Sheila Jackson Lee, Texas, Maxine Waters, California, Martin T. Meehan, Massachusetts, William D. Delahunt, Massachusetts, Robert Wexler, Florida, Steven R. Rothman, New Jersey, Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin, and Anthony D. Weiner, New York.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule I

The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary and its subcommittees with the following specific additions thereto.

Rule II. Committee Meetings

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee on the Judiciary for the conduct of its business shall be on Tuesday of each week while the House is in session.

(b) Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman and a regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with when, in the judgment of the Chairman, there is no need therefor.

(c) At least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session) before each scheduled Committee or subcommittee meeting, each Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall be furnished a list of the bill(s) and subject(s) to be considered and/or acted upon at the meeting. Bills or subjects not listed shall be subject to a point of order, unless their consideration is agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Committee or subcommittee.

(d) The Chairman, with such notice to the ranking Minority Member as is practicable, may call and convene, as he considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purpose pursuant to that call of the Chairman.

(e) Committee and subcommittee meetings for the transaction of business, i.e., meetings other than those held for the purpose of taking testimony, shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(f) Every motion made to the Committee and entertained by the Chairman shall be reduced to writing upon demand of any Member, and a copy made available to each Member present.

(g) For purposes of taking any action at a meeting of the full Committee or any subcommittee thereof, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of not less than one-third of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee, except that a full majority of the Members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of reporting a measure or recommendation from the Committee or subcommittee, closing a meeting to the public, or authorizing the issuance of a subpoena.

(h) Transcripts of markups shall be recorded and may be published in the same manner as hearings before the committee and shall be included as part of the legislative report unless waived by the Chairman.

Rule III. Hearings

(a) The Committee Chairman or any subcommittee chairman shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted by it on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing. If the Chairman of the Committee, or subcommittee, with the concurrence of the ranking Minority Member, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman or subcommittee chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

(b) Committee and subcommittee hearings shall be open to the public except when the Committee or subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(c) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before the Committee or any subcommittee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of two Members.

(d) In the course of any hearing each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the interrogation of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

(e) The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the committee which are decided to be printed shall be published in verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. Individuals, including Members of Congress, whose comments are to be published as part

of a committee document shall be given the opportunity to verify the accuracy of the transcription in advance of publication. Any requests by those Members, staff or witnesses to correct any errors other than errors in the transcription, or disputed errors in transcription, shall be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the change is requested will be footnoted. Prior to approval by the Chairman of hearings conducted jointly with another congressional committee, a memorandum of understanding shall be prepared which incorporates an agreement for the publication of the verbatim transcript.

Rule IV. Broadcasting

Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by television, radio and still photography except when the hearing or meeting is closed pursuant to the Committee Rules of Procedure.

Rule V. Standing Subcommittees

(a) The full Committee shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: anti-trust law, tort liability, including medical malpractice and product liability, legal reform generally, and such other matters as determined by the Chairman.

(b) There shall be five standing subcommittees of the Committee on the Judiciary, with jurisdictions as follows:

(1) *Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property*: copyright, patent and trademark law, information technology, administration of U.S. courts, Federal Rules of Evidence, Civil and Appellate Procedure, judicial ethics, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(2) *Subcommittee on the Constitution*: constitutional amendments, constitutional rights, federal civil rights laws, ethics in government, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(3) *Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law*: bankruptcy and commercial law, bankruptcy judgeships, administrative law, independent counsel, state taxation affecting interstate commerce, interstate compacts, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(4) *Subcommittee on Crime*: Federal Criminal Code, drug enforcement, sentencing, parole and pardons, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, prisons, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(5) *Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims*: immigration and naturalization, admission of refugees, treaties, conventions and international agreements, claims against the United States, federal charters of incorporation, private immigration and claims bills, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(c) The Chairman of the Committee and ranking Minority Member thereof shall be ex officio Members, but not voting Members, of each subcommittee to which such Chairman or ranking Minority member has not been assigned by resolution of the Committee. Ex officio Members shall not be counted as present for purposes of constituting a quorum at any hearing or meeting of such subcommittee.

Rule VI. Powers and Duties of Subcommittees

Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction. Subcommittee chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and

other subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

Rule VII. Non-Legislative Reports

No report of the Committee or subcommittee which does not accompany a measure or matter for consideration by the House shall be published unless all Members of the Committee or subcommittee issuing the report shall have been apprised of such report and given the opportunity to give notice of intention to file supplemental, additional, or dissenting views as part of the report. In no case shall the time in which to file such views be less than three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session).

Rule VIII. Committee Records

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use according to the Rules of the House. The Chairman shall notify the ranking Minority Member of any decision to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any Member of the Committee.

PROTECTING OUR GREATEST MILITARY ASSET: OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

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

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, as we begin the 107th Congress and our debate turns to our national security, I want to remind our colleagues that we must remain vigilant in protecting the greatest asset in our defense arsenal, our military personnel. Without our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, we cannot sail our ships, fly our fighters, or put boots on the ground to protect our Nation's interests here and abroad.

Our highly qualified, well-trained military personnel are the core of our Nation's defense. I am concerned that the new administration will rush to fund high visibility weapons systems with important political constituencies, like the National Missile Defense, at the expense of ensuring that our military personnel remain the best in the world.

I believe we must make every effort to continue to recruit quality service members to ensure the continued success of our Armed Forces. With the good economic times, rising numbers of high school graduates going on to college, low unemployment, myriad job opportunities in the private sector, and a whole host of other factors, it is no secret that the military services have been experiencing difficulties in recruiting and retaining enough qualified individuals.

Last year, all of the services reached their yearly recruiting goals for enlisted active duty personnel, but this success was not easily achieved. For example, the Air Force, which historically has an easier time recruiting, had