things go as they have been for the last several years, according to the Census Bureau, if our population grows at exactly the same rate as it has been growing for the last couple of decades, that by the mid-century, we will be at the half-a-billion mark in this country population-wise; and 90 percent of that increase from now until mid-century will be as a result of immigration, legal and illegal. Believe me, those numbers do not count the kinds of things we have talked about here: 4 million people running around the country who just simply overstayed their visa; they are not even counted in that figure.

So regardless of all of that, regardless of the kinds of problems that the Nation faces in terms of resources, resource allocations, the degradation of the environment, and again, the quality-of-life issues that confront people all over this country; talk to people from Los Angeles, if we do not think that the quality-of-life issue is relevant when we talk about immigration. Every time I give this particular speech and I walk back to my office, there are calls, most of which are from California and people saying they are very supportive; some, of course, not so supportive, but most are; and they attest to the fact that there is a quality-of-life issue to massive immigration, huge numbers of people coming across the borders. We cannot sustain it. We cannot build infrastructure fast enough to sustain it, to sustain a high quality of life.

Those are the issues that we used to address before September 11. They are still important. They are still meaningful. I wish that we could make the case just on those points alone. But I have never been able to overcome the opposition of the political side of the process here that says, those people will eventually become good members of the Democratic Party, so let us not keep them out, and on the other side here saying, we need them for cheap labor. I have never been able to really wrestle with those two big Goliaths. Those are very tough, very difficult, very powerful interest groups.

But now, forget all of that. There is something far more significant and immediate. Those threats I mentioned, those problems were all long-term threats to the health of this Nation and the survivability of the Nation as we know it. But what I am talking about now is, of course, immediate threats to our survivability. I am talking about people who came here for the express purpose of murdering thousands; and they would not care if it were millions, of our fellow citizens. That is why they came, and they were able to come across our borders without the slightest bit of concern; and they were able to stay here, even in violation of our visa laws, without the slightest bit of concern.

It is despicable, Mr. Speaker. We cannot rationalize this in any way, shape, or form. And if we can, if anybody in this body can rationalize the past and say well, gee, we just did not know it would ever turn out to be anything like this; although again, prior to September 11, I must say that I and many other Members talked about the dangers to the security of the Nation with having porous borders. But regardless, if one can rationalize in one's own mind that we had to do it that way, that it was really just the altruistic nature of our country that it says ''give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free'' on the Statue of Liberty, all that meant that we had to open our borders, go ahead, rationalize it away; but now, think about the future, think about tomorrow. Think about the unthinkable, the possibility of another event as big as, if not worse, than the last one, and imagine what it would be like having to rationalize their position then and say, I knew it could happen but I chose to ignore it and not vote for immigration reform. Mr. Speaker, I choose not to be in that situation, and I hope a majority of my colleagues will join me in our attempts to reform this system and keep America safe.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHROCK). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2105

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KINGSTON) at 9 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3061, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

Mr. LINDER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107–233) on the resolution (H. Res. 258) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3061) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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. BAIRD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. MCKINNEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SANCHEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BAIRD, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. SOUDER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS REFERRED

Concurrent resolutions of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. Con. Res. 63. Concurrent resolution recognizing the important contributions of the Youth For Life: Remembering Walter Payton initiative and encouraging participation in this nationwide effort to educate young people about organ and tissue donation; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. Con. Res. 76. Concurrent resolution honoring the law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency rescue personnel, and health care professionals who have worked tirelessly to search for and rescue the victims of the horrific attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001; to the Committee on Government Reform.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, October 11, 2001, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

4184. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting notification that the Secretary has invoked the authority granted by 41 U.S.C. 3732 to authorize the military departments to incur obligations in excess of available appropriations for clothing, subsistence, forage, fuel, quarters, transportation, or medical and hospital supplies, pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 11; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4185. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a copy of the ''Annual Report on the Department of Defense Mentor-Protege Program''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4186. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting a report entitled, ''Merger Decisions 2000''; to the Committee on Financial Services.

4187. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, transmitting an Annual Report, ''Guaranteeing Equal Access to High-Standards Education''; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4188. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting the Energy Information Administration's Annual