

We are all aware of the fact that California provides more tax dollars to the Federal Treasury than it receives in Federal support. Our State is third to the last in Federal Medicaid spending on a per capita basis. We can afford to fall no further. The public health system in California is at a critical juncture, and we must act now to prevent a crisis that will affect tens of millions of California taxpayers.

Yet I am very cognizant of the fact that our Nation is currently at war, and because of that we face significant budgetary limitation this fiscal year and we will face challenges next year as well. I do not believe, however, that we should reduce health care services for our most disadvantaged people in our efforts to reduce costs. Such action will undoubtedly cause more instability and expense in the long run than any benefit that would be provided in the short term.

Because implementation of the reduction of the upper payment limit is not scheduled to take place for California until fiscal year 2004, we have a unique opportunity to address these concerns without impacting the budget of this Congress, but we must take action this year. We must further the bipartisan compromise that was put together in the 106th Congress, and I am underscoring the importance of that.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today to ask for the support of Members on both sides of the aisle to find a common-sense solution to this impending crisis and to protect California's public health system from financial attack. The people of California deserve no less. We obviously want to do everything that we possibly can to ensure that there is not a continued reliance on emergency services, and we are working on a broad range of reforms in the area of health care, including the delivery of prescription drugs to seniors and other reforms which we believe are very important. But in the meantime, until we bring about those reforms, we cannot leave those who are the most disadvantaged among us hurting.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle from California who have joined in working hard to deal with this Medicaid upper payment limit issue. We remain strongly united as a California delegation to preserve the health care system in our State and for the country.

TROPICAL STORMS HIT GUAM

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

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor having been absent all week from the deliberations of the House due to two storms which hit my home island of Guam. The first typhoon, the eye of the storm, passed over Guam on July 5, 2002, Chamorro Standard Time, with sustained winds of over 110 miles an hour.

□ 1130

Subsequently, Typhoon Ha Long was supposed to hit Guam on July 11, but, fortunately, it just veered a little bit to the south of the island. These storms, which frequent my part of the world quite often, of course, have caused a great deal of damage and a great deal of interruption of public services, and obviously I was not able to come back to the House this week as originally planned.

I have just gotten off the phone with Mr. Joe Allbaugh of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, and they have assured me that FEMA is on the ground in Guam. In fact, they have chartered a plane with some 300 people to come out to Guam to try to provide all of the services that are necessary, including individual services for those who were directly affected by the typhoon.

Historically, Guam has suffered a major typhoon nearly every decade. There are some 60 to 70 storms which this part of the world generates every year, tropical storms, and sometimes they reach the level of typhoons. Typhoon Chata'an is the first major storm to hit us since Typhoon Paka directly hit Guam also in 1997.

There are a number of issues that always pertain to typhoon recovery, including power and water situations, and, of course, the vast majority of Guam is still without power. Those areas which have been powered up are the hospital, the two hospitals, the Guam Memorial Hospital and Naval Hospital, and the water system is basically inoperable at this time, so that those areas that are getting water are required to boil water if they want to use it for consumption, as opposed to just bathing or taking care of the bathroom facilities. This situation is likely to continue on for at least 2 to 3 more weeks.

It is important that as we try to learn the lessons of typhoon recovery, which are indeed painful lessons and lessons which I hope many of the Members of this body and the people they represent never have to undergo, they really have a capacity to strain human relations, have the capacity to generate feelings about maybe people are not pulling their share of the load.

But I am happy to report that the people of Guam in general are in great spirits. The people of Guam understand, as they have so often in the past, that at a time of a typhoon, the time of typhoon recovery is a time to pull together, a time to act together and a time to rebuild together, and the people of Guam will rebuild their island, will rebuild the utilities and the services which most other Americans take for granted on a day-to-day basis.

Chata'an, which is in Chamorro, means rainy day, means having a bad day, but indeed it was a bad day. Chata'an also had affected the Island of Chuuk in the Federated States of Micronesia, which is the area where the storms generate. At that time it was

still under 75 miles per hour so it was only called a tropical storm, but it caused a number of landslides there and killed over 40 people. So Chuuk in the Federated States of Micronesia has also suffered greatly, perhaps not as much in damage as the people of Guam have, but certainly more in the sense of human loss and the effect on families.

Both the Federated States of Micronesia, which is an independent nation in free association with the United States, as well as the Territory of Guam, will be fully eligible for FEMA. I thank Mr. Allbaugh's recognition of this in our phone call just a few minutes ago, indicating that he will make sure that Guam is treated fairly and that it will receive all the services it needs, just like any other American community, and that as a result of the special relationship with the Federated States of Micronesia, also the FSM will be afforded the same treatment.

Typhoon Ha Long, which was supposed to pass directly over Guam 2 days ago, fortunately passed about 50 miles south of Guam. The people of Guam today are, in the main, without power, are without water, and they continue to deal with their conditions in the spirit that has always sustained them for centuries, and that is understanding we are always at the mercy of natural events, but that it is our own spirit, our own intelligence and our own capacity to work together, to collaborate together, which will see us through.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mrs. EMERSON (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of personal reasons.

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

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHERMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. UNDERWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, July 15.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NUSSLE, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 36 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, July 15, 2002, 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:

7874. A letter from the Acting Director, OSHA Directorate of Safety Standards, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Occupational Injury and Illness Recording and Reporting Requirements [Docket No. R-02A] (RIN: 1218-AC06) received July 2, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

7875. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Department of Defense's proposed lease of defense articles to the Government of Malaysia (Transmittal No. 08-02), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

7876. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Department of Defense's proposed lease of defense articles to the Government of India (Transmittal No. 10-02), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

7877. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Department of Defense's proposed lease of defense articles to the Government of the Philippines (Transmittal No. 07-02), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

7878. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Department of Defense's proposed lease of defense articles to the Government of Singapore (Transmittal No. 09-02), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

7879. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting the Department of Defense's proposed lease of defense articles to the Government of the Thailand (Transmittal No. 11-02), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2796a(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

7880. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting copy of Transmittal No. 14-02 which informs of the intent to sign Amendment Number 1 to the Joint Strike Fighter Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) Phase Framework Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Supplement for Italy Participation under the JSF EMD Framework between the United States, Italy and the United Kingdom, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

7881. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. 21-02 which informs the intent to sign the Fifth Amendment to the Arrow

Deployability Program (ADP) between the United States and Israel, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

7882. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. 20-02 which informs of the intent to sign the MK48 Advanced Capability (ADCAP) Common Broadband Advanced Sonar System (CBASS) Heavyweight Torpedo Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United States and Australia, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

7883. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting notification concerning the request for the Government of Egypt to cash flow finance a Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) for the upgrade of six CH-47C CHINOOK helicopters to the newer CH-47D configuration, spare and repair parts, avionics equipment, publications and technical data, communications equipment, maintenance, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government Quality Assurance Team, contractor representatives, contractor engineering and technical support services, preparation of aircraft for shipment and other related elements of logistics support; to the Committee on International Relations.

7884. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting notification that during FY 2002, U.S. industry expects to present a Direct Commercial Contract to the Government of Israel (GOI) for the cash flow financing of up to three Group A Modified Gulfstream V Aircraft with associated spares, support, and training; to the Committee on International Relations.

7885. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives: General Electric Company CF 6-6, CF6-45, and CF6-50 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 96-ANE-41-AD; Amendment 39-12671; AD 2002-05-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7886. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company CF34-3A1 and -3B1 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 99-NE-49-AD; Amendment 39-12670; AD 2002-05-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7887. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737, 747, and 777 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2000-NM-156-AD; Amendment 39-12254; AD 2001-11-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7888. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-283-AD; Amendment 39-12248; AD 2001-11-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7889. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737-600, -700, -700C, and -800 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2001-NM-126-AD; Amendment 39-12251; AD 2001-09-51] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17,

2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7890. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 737-600, -700, -700C, and -800 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2001-NM-356-AD; Amendment 39-12679; AD 2002-06-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7891. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce, plc. Models Tay 650-15 and 651-54 Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 2001-NE-02-AD; Amendment 39-12624; AD 2002-01-29] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7892. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model DC-9-80 Series Airplanes and Model MD-88 Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-326-AD; Amendment 39-12163; AD 2001-06-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7893. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Model AS350B, AS350BA, AS350B1, AS350B2, AS350B3, AS350C, AS350D, AS350D1, AS355E, AS355F, AS355F1, AS355F2, AS355N, and EC130 B4 Helicopters [Docket No. 2002-SW-09-AD; Amendment 39-12681; AD 2002-03-52] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7894. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A330 and A340 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2001-NM-135-AD; Amendment 39-12252; AD 2001-11-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7895. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Cirrus Design Corporation Models SR20 and SR22 Airplanes [Docket No. 2002-CE-06-AD; Amendment 39-12673; AD 2002-05-05] received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7896. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Honeywell International Inc. (formerly AlliedSignal Inc. and Textron Lycoming) LTS101 Series Turbo-shaft and LTP101 Series Turbo-prop Engines [Docket No. 2000-NE-14-AD; Amendment 39-12676; AD 2002-03-09 R1] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

7897. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney JT8D Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No. 98-ANE-71-AD; Amendment 39-12353; AD 2001-15-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 17, 2002, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.