

this money here and let us give it back to the people who were hurt so badly, that caused the prices to go up and resulted in no price supports and very low farm payments that has resulted in the \$5 billion shortfall.

One of the solutions that many people have advocated is that we simply take the money out of the new farm bill, and my hypothesis here and the reason I am appearing on the floor tonight is to explain to people that this is something that absolutely cannot happen. We have shown earlier that the new farm bill does not appear to be more expensive than what we were doing. It seems to be more accountable. It provides a better safety net, and the other thing to remember is that there is an 80 percent increase in conservation payments. Most environmentalists, most people in cities, most people around the country would say, yeah, we need to protect our environment, and the farm bill does this.

The other thing that is in the farm bill that we did not want to see attacked is rural economic development. We are losing young people at a tremendous rate in rural America. They are simply leaving and they are not coming back. If we do not do something to diversify the economy, if we do not do something to shore up our rural areas and to build up our small towns and to bring in broadband services where they can have high speed Internet access, we are simply going to have a more and more difficult time and we are going to unravel more and more.

We think this is a responsible solution. It does not break the budget because we are not talking about spending money over and above what we thought we were going to spend in the first place. The House has a budget. The House has to stay with a budget. The other body does not have a budget; therefore, they can propose whatever they want to and then ask the President to pass it or veto it. In our case, we have to stay within the budget. In this case, we feel that we are staying within the budget, and we think it is the best thing for agriculture. We think it is the best thing for the country because it is not in the national interest to see a bunch of farmers and ranchers go out of business because of the draught.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude my remarks and we certainly urge consideration for those farmers and ranchers out there who are struggling with drought. We hope some disaster assistance will be forthcoming, and we certainly hope that my colleagues here on the floor of the House will see fit to help them out in the near future.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. CARSON of Indiana (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of official business in the district.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness.

Mrs. VELÁZQUEZ (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of a family emergency.

Ms. BALDWIN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of a flight delay.

Mrs. BONO (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week on account of family reasons.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and the balance of the week 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. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. DAVIS of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

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

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

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

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

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

Mr. HORN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NUSSLE, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 691. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land in the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Nevada, to the Secretary of the Interior, in trust for the Washoe Indian Tribe of Nevada and California, to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1010. An act to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of North Carolina, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 1227. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area in the State of New York, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1240. An act to provide for the acquisition of land and construction of an interagency administrative and visitor facility at the entrance to American Fork Canyon, Utah, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1325. An act to ratify an agreement between the Aleut Corporation and the United States of America to exchange land rights

received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for certain land interests on Adak Island, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Resources and the Committee on Armed Services.

S. 1339. An act to amend the Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000 to provide an asylum program with regard to American Persian Gulf War POW/MIAs, and for other purposes, to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on International Relations.

S. 1843. An act to extend certain hydroelectric licenses in the State of Alaska, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 1852. An act to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Wyoming, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 1894. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the national significance of the Miami Circle site in the State of Florida as well as the suitability and feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System as part of Biscayne National Park, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1907. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to the city of Haines, Oregon, to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1946. An act to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail as a National Historic Trail, to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2037. An act to mobilize technology and science experts to respond quickly to the threats posed by terrorist attacks and other emergencies, by providing for the establishment of a national emergency technology guard, a technology reliability advisory board, and a center for evaluating antiterrorism and disaster response technology within the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to the Committee on Science, to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 2549. An act to ensure that child employees of traveling sales crews are protected under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

S. 2558. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the collection of data on benign brain-related tumors through the national program of cancer registries, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. Con. Res. 137. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service should exert its best efforts to cause the Major League Baseball Players Association and the owners of the teams of Major League Baseball to enter into a contract to continue to play professional baseball games without engaging in a strike, a lockout, or any conduct that interferes with the playing of scheduled professional baseball games, to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker Pro Tempore, FRANK WOLF on August 2, 2002.

H.R. 3009. An act to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, to grant additional trade benefits under that Act, and for other purposes.

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which