

Would the distinguished majority leader tell us when the bankruptcy conference report would be scheduled?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her inquiry.

It is particularly timely to talk about bankruptcy within the context where 3.7 percent increase and a 14.2 percent increase is considered a cut. That is exactly the kind of thinking that leads to bankruptcy dilemmas across the country. The bankruptcy bill, too, is an extremely important bill. We intend to do so.

Unfortunately, the bill is inflicted by a totally extraneous provision having to do with abortion put in by the other body. That has made it very difficult for Members who have a commitment on both of these two very important moral issues to reconcile their conflicts between that.

Unfortunately, we risk this bill's passage by virtue of the kind of extraneous riders that are all too commonplace in the other body. This body, being the more disciplined and responsible body, will, as it many times must do, find a way to come to terms with that irresponsibility in the legislative process, and as soon as we have found that way, I promise we will bring that bill to the floor.

Ms. PELOSI. Is the gentleman referencing the provision in the bill that was put in by the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE), from the gentleman's own party?

Mr. ARMEY. I appreciate the gentleman's inquiry.

The gentlewoman also understands it is contrary to the rules of the House for me to mention Senator SCHUMER by name, and I would never do that.

Ms. PELOSI. And the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE).

Mr. Leader, can we assume that since here we are, it is 20 after 12 on Thursday, we are in the middle of a great economic uncertainty in our country, America's seniors are clamoring for prescription drug benefits, we need to invest more in education, we have a list of priorities that the American people are concerned about, including their pension security, we came in just the other night, we are going out at 20 after 12 on Thursday and there will be no votes tomorrow, is that our understanding? We finished our business for the week?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, if the gentlewoman will yield, I appreciate so much the gentlewoman's frustration. We passed investment security over to the other body in August. We passed the education bill. We passed the prescription drug bill. We passed the homeland security bill.

We in this body are stuck with watching these bills languish in the other body as we await any kind of competent action from the other body. As soon as they can manage to pass any of these bills and get to conference on these bills, we would be willing to sit down and work on these bills, and I promise you we will bring them back for completion.

The gentlewoman is absolutely correct. All of this is too important to the people of this Nation for the other body to continue to dillydally.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I think that if there is a person out there who has lost their pension or a senior making a decision about how much of a dosage you are able to afford to take or whether you can even afford to take any prescription drug over purchasing food, or if your child is going to a substandard school and you want a better investment, and the list goes on and on, you would think that what we were doing here is irrelevant, especially when we are not even here. We are missing-in-action on some of the struggles of the American people.

Will the gentleman inform us whether we will have votes next Friday?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate the gentlewoman's inquiry.

Of course, all of these concerns are exactly why our pension bill was passed out of this body, as I said, last April.

Whether or not we are able to have votes on Friday will depend upon the appropriators, particularly those appropriators that must reconcile themselves against the excesses of the other body. But we will try to get these bills to the floor, and I will announce as early as I can whether or not there will be votes on Friday.

Ms. PELOSI. So it is our understanding we are leaving at 20 after 12 on Thursday, coming back at 6:30 on Tuesday, and we may be out next Friday?

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentlewoman will yield, the incredible thing, Mr. Speaker, is that even keeping these hours, we get three times as much work done as is done in the other body.

Ms. PELOSI. Our standard must be the standard we set for the American people, and we cannot hide behind anyone else's schedule. We have leadership that we can take ourselves to meet the needs of the American people.

I thank the distinguished majority leader for the information, and, as always, his gracious presentation.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair would remind Members that references to the Senate or to Senators are closely circumscribed by the rules and inappropriate references must be avoided.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2002, TO TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2002

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Friday, September 13, 2002, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, 2002, for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

LAYING ON THE TABLE CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following resolutions be laid on the table:

H. Res. 464;
H. Res. 500;
H. Res. 501;
H. Res. 506; and
H. Res. 508.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PENCE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN TERRORIST ATTACKS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-261)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of September 11, 2001, is to continue in effect for 1 year. Proclamation 7463, Declaration of National Emergency by Reason of Certain Terrorist