

Hollen (to rank immediately after Ms. Majette).

(3) COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM: Mr. Cooper, Mr. Bell.

(4) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE: Mr. Sherman, Mr. Baird, Mr. Moore, Mr. Weiner, Mr. Matheson.

(5) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Acevedo-Vilá, Mr. Case, Ms. Bordallo, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Michaud.

(6) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS: Ms. Hooley of Oregon, Mr. Reyes, Mr. Strickland, Ms. Berkley, Mr. Udall of New Mexico, Mrs. Davis of California, Mr. Ryan of Ohio.

Mr. MENENDEZ (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING AMOUNTS FOR INTERIM EXPENSES OF SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY IN FIRST SESSION OF 108TH CONGRESS

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 77) providing amounts for interim expenses of the Select Committee on Homeland Security in the first session of the One Hundred Eighth Congress, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I would just like to ask the gentleman what the House is being asked to consider.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FROST. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman asks a very appropriate question. House Resolution 77 is necessary to provide the Select Committee on Homeland Security with the necessary funding to organize the committee.

□ 1630

House Resolution 77 authorizes \$700,000 for use by the Select Committee on Homeland Security. Also know that we have communicated with the distinguished gentleman from Connecticut. It is interim funding.

Consistent with my discussions with the Ranking Minority Member, it is my understanding that the funds provided by H. Res. 77 will be distributed in a manner consistent with the "Two-thirds, One-third" goal for division of resources. I expect the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Select Committee to reach agreement on a division of the resources provided by this resolution that will reflect this goal and be to their mutual satisfaction.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to compliment Chairman NEY for bringing this important resolution to the Floor so expeditiously. I am also pleased that the Majority has agreed that the right of the minority members to control one-third of the select committee's staff and resources will be protected throughout the funding process.

I am pleased that we can act today to provide interim funding for this new select committee, which was created as a separate order of the House attached to the rules resolution, H. Res. 5, adopted on January 7.

The Select Committee on Homeland Security is charged with developing recommendations and reporting to the House by bill or otherwise on matters relating to the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-296). In other words, it is a legislative committee of the House for matters which fall within its sphere, with referral of legislation to be decided by the Speaker.

The resolution before us today would provide interim funding through March 31, 2003, to get it off the ground and running for a short time, by which time the House Administration Committee will have reported and the House adopted the biennial primary expense resolution providing funding for all committees and select committees of the House for the 108th Congress.

Both sides of the aisle have now named their members of the new select committee, to join the chairman, Rep. COX, and the ranking member, Rep. TURNER of Texas, so it is now ready to conduct business.

I also look forward to seeing the new chairman and ranking member appear in a few weeks to testify before the House Administration Committee about the committee's agenda for the next two years, as we prepare the biennial resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I am especially pleased that the Democratic Leader as appointed my good friend the gentleman from Texas, Mr. TURNER, as the ranking member of this new committee. I serve with Rep. TURNER on the Armed Services Committee, and am delighted that he will have the opportunity to lead our party in rising to the challenges of providing effective homeland security against the international threats facing us today and to expand on his past legislative accomplishments in the field of national defense. He is clearly the right person for a job like this.

This is a tremendous challenge. We must protect America from terrorism while defending the freedoms and liberties which are the foundation of our democracy. We must help organize and supervise a major new government department of historic size and responsibility. The House has made a good start with this select committee and its distinguished leadership on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, creation of the select committee will expand the House's ability to deal with these critical issues, but, as with any new entity in a legislative body, it may take some time to fully define its role and what its inter-relationships with the regular standing committees of the House will be. I and the other members of the House Administration Committee look forward to working on a bipartisan basis with the members of the select committee to help make that effort a success.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 77

*Resolved,*

**SECTION 1. INTERIM EXPENSES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.**

For interim expenses of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, there shall be paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives not more than \$700,000.

**SEC. 2. LIMITATION.**

Amounts shall be available under this resolution for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2003, and ending at midnight on March 31, 2003.

**SEC. 3. VOUCHERS.**

Payments under this resolution shall be made on vouchers authorized by the Select Committee on Homeland Security, signed by the chairman of such committee, and approved in the manner directed by the Committee on House Administration.

**SEC. 4. REGULATIONS.**

Amounts made available under this resolution shall be expended in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration.

**SEC. 5. ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.**

The Committee on House Administration shall have authority to make adjustments in amounts under section 1, if necessary to comply with an order of the President issued under section 254 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or to conform to any reduction in appropriations for the purposes of such section 1.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of the bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.