

Mr. BERTEUTER into the House of Representatives in November of 1978, the same year I was first elected to this chamber. As a member of the same freshman class I got to know Representative BERTEUTER during those weeks preceding our first terms. Over that period, and in the years since, I have found Congressman BERTEUTER to be a consummate professional and a remarkable representative for the people of Nebraska.

He is the quintessential public servant, having served as an officer in the United States Army, as well as various capacities within Nebraska's State government, including service as a State Senator, prior to his election to Congress.

Mr. BERTEUTER has announced his retirement effective at the end of the 108th Congress. During his distinguished career, Mr. BERTEUTER has left his mark in the halls of Congress. I know that Congressman BERTEUTER will be missed in this body for the integrity with which he dealt with each person he came across during his tenure.

Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in congratulating Congressman BERTEUTER on a job well done. The people of Nebraska have been well served for the past twenty-six years. He has served with distinction, and will retire with the respect of his peers. Congratulations and best wishes for a long and prosperous retirement, Congressman BERTEUTER.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend and outstanding public servant, Congressman DOUG BERTEUTER.

I have become familiar with DOUG and his work having served as a member of the U.S. House delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, which he chairs. I have participated in numerous congressional delegations abroad which he has led and was always impressed with his knowledge of world affairs and his determination to increase understanding among NATO partners.

DOUG also has been a tireless advocate for his Cornhusker State constituents during his twenty-six year House tenure. He has served longer than any other Nebraskan, during which time he has penned many laws to help his diverse constituency, including ones to promote his state's agricultural exports, improve health care and child welfare, end international hunger, and protect Native Americans.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to call DOUG BERTEUTER a friend and colleague. His constituents and our country are losing an honorable and dedicated public servant, the likes of which bring credit to this hallowed institution in which we are so fortunate to serve. I wish him and his wife, Louise, health and happiness in their future endeavors.

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I am honored to participate in this special order recognizing the many years of dedicated service to the 1st District of Nebraska and to our country by our good friend and colleague, DOUG BERTEUTER.

DOUG is one of the hardest working, dedicated and principled Members to serve in this House. In his quiet way, he has successfully worked to bring about significant reforms and accomplishments in many areas. Through it all, he has done so with the highest moral character, unquestioned integrity, and has been true to his convictions. DOUG has been an example to us all by working in an effective and bipartisan manner, more interested in pol-

icy and legislation than scoring political points. He considers each issue on the merits and isn't afraid to follow his own convictions and do what he believes is right. If DOUG proposes a legislative initiative, you can count on it being well-considered and carefully thought out.

Perhaps his strength of character and principled behavior comes from his Midwestern Nebraska roots that go back five generations. He has served Nebraska and his constituents well, never losing sight of the special needs and concerns of his district. DOUG has been a leader in many varied initiatives that have benefited his constituents and the country. He has been active in promoting a national trail program that improves the quality of life for all Americans. As a colleague on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I know he has been diligent in tending to the various transportation needs of his district. While not a Member of the Agriculture Committee, he nonetheless has been active in promoting proposals to aid farmers.

Just this year, the Financial Services Committee and the House have acted on other initiatives he has spearheaded for many years, including flood insurance reform and home loan guarantee programs.

Perhaps the area for which DOUG has become most recognized here in the House and, literally, around the world is that of foreign affairs. He is recognized as one of the hardest working members of the International Relations Committee and has served admirably as Chairman of the Asian Subcommittee and the Europe Subcommittee.

For many years he was the Chairman of the House delegation to the British American Parliamentary Group and remains an active member today. He is currently Chairman of the U.S. House Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly as well as President of the NATO PA itself, positions that require countless hours of work and effort on a continuing basis. He is a co-founder of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China that was essential in winning permanent normal trade relations with China while ensuring that we continue to monitor human rights, guard against prison labor exports and put in place other related safeguards. The many other boards, commissions and task forces he has served on over the years are too numerous a to mention.

While I regret DOUG leaving the House, he is undoubtedly well suited for his next position as president of The Asia Foundation. He is keenly aware of the increasingly important role of Asia and in the benefit to Asia and to the U.S. in helping to encourage growth and prosperity from within the region. The goal of the Asian Foundation is the "development of a peaceful, prosperous, and open Asia-Pacific region." It accomplishes this through supporting programs that help improve governance, economic reform and development, increased participation of women, and other internal reforms. I know all of these are principles that DOUG shares, and he will provide strong and steady guidance to the organization.

I would be remiss if I didn't note another important ingredient to DOUG's—success—lovely wife Louise. An accomplished artist and musician, Louise has been a loyal and steadfast partner as DOUG has faced his many responsibilities. I will long remember one night on a

recent BAPG trip to Ditchley Park outside Oxford. Louise played one song after another on the piano as the rest of us struggled to sing along. I'm afraid our vocal abilities were no match for her musical skills. But it was a lot of fun, and that is how I will always think of DOUG and Louise—good and decent people who know how to enjoy life.

So I wish them well as they move to San Francisco and begin this new phase of their life together. DOUG can be proud of his service here in the House, and I am proud to have served with him and to consider him a friend.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 2:00 p.m. on account of official business in the district.

Mr. QUINN (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today after noon and the balance of the week on account of family medical 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. MCDERMOTT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. PEARCE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MICA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, July 9, 2004, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

8957. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting

Authorization of Major General Henry A. Obering, United States Air Force, to wear the insignia of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8958. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Rear Admiral James M. Zortman, United States Navy, to wear the insignia of vice admiral in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8959. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Rear Admiral Jonathan W. Greenert, United States Navy, to wear the insignia of vice admiral in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8960. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Major General Russel L. Honore, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8961. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Lieutenant General Richard A. Cody, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8962. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Major General Carl A. Strock, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8963. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Major General Michael W. Wooley, United States Air Force, to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8964. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Lieutenant General Paul V. Hester, United States Air Force, to wear the insignia of the grade of general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8965. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Major General Jeffrey B. Kohler, United States Air Force, to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8966. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting Authorization of Major General John F. Regni, United States Air Force, to wear the insignia of the grade of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8967. A letter from the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting

Authorization of Rear Admiral (lower half) James G. Stavridis, United States Navy, to wear the insignia of vice admiral in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8968. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Health Care Fraud and Abuse Data Collection Program: Technical Revisions to Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank Data Collection Activities (RIN: 0991-AB31) received June 18, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

8969. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Privacy Act Regulations—received June 17, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8970. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Participation in Education Department Programs by Religious Organizations; Providing for Equal Treatment of All Education Program Participants (RIN: 1890-AA11) received June 17, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8971. A letter from the Regulations Analyst, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Privacy Act of 1974: Implementation of Exemption [Docket No. TSA-2003-15900] (RIN: 1652-AA28) received June 24, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8972. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Revision of NARA Research Room Procedures (RIN: 3095-AB10) received June 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8973. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Restrictions on the Use of Records (RIN: 3095-AB11) received June 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

8974. A letter from the Group Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Location, Recording, and Maintenance of Mining Claims or Sites [WO-320-1430-00-24 1A] (RIN: 1004-AD62) received July 1, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

8975. A letter from the Acting General Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Disaster Assistance Definitions; Statutory Change (RIN: 1660-AA19) received May 19, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. LINDER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 710. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4766) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Develop-

ment, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes (Rept. 108-591). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 711. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2828) to authorize the Secretary of Interior to implement water supply technology and infrastructure programs aimed at increasing and diversifying domestic water resources (Rept. 108-592). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. WELDON of Florida (for himself and Mr. DOYLE):

H.R. 4779. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for clinical research support grants, clinical research infrastructure grants, and a demonstration program on partnerships in clinical research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 4780. A bill to require the United States Trade Representative to pursue a complaint of anti-competitive practices against certain oil exporting countries; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BORDALLO (for herself, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA):

H.R. 4781. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for equitable treatment of residents of territories with respect to transitional assistance and low-income subsidies under the Medicare prescription drug benefit program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma:

H.R. 4782. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 East Illinois Avenue in Vinita, Oklahoma, as the "Francis C. Goodpaster Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma:

H.R. 4783. A bill to adjust the boundaries of the Ouachita National Forest in the States of Oklahoma and Arkansas; to the Committee on Resources.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 4784. A bill to provide a grant program to support the establishment and operation of Teachers Institutes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HULSHOF (for himself, Mr. BOSWELL, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. LEACH, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. EVANS, Mr. AKIN, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. WELLER, Mr. LATHAM, and Mr. KING of Iowa):

H.R. 4785. A bill to enhance navigation capacity improvements and the ecosystem restoration plan for the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway System; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 4786. A bill to provide grants to tribes to assist those tribes in participating in the Federal acknowledgement process; to the Committee on Resources.