

Airlines won't take on those routes for the very reason that they haven't up to now. They don't believe in that kind of service. There are not enough passengers for them.

Delta is proposing to maintain those routes, and US Airways now has to compete with Delta to win in those markets. That competition helps keep fares down and provides choices a monopoly carrier will not offer.

And Madam Speaker, what about justice for Delta's employees? Delta's employees have sacrificed a lot to turn the company around.

They have been through lay offs, pay cuts, and uncertainty about the company's future and even their retirement benefits. They deserve to reap what they've sown. They have hung in there. They didn't give up in hard times. And this is the kind of nation that rewards hard work and sacrifice.

Delta employees should reap the benefits of their sacrifice. They don't deserve the risks of a US Airways takeover. They have been through the worry of losing their jobs and benefits. They have fought hard to win back their security. They don't deserve to lose the seniority they've worked so long to achieve.

And that's why—they don't want US Airways! They don't want to go back. They want to move forward with a free and independent Delta airlines.

Madam Speaker, I submit to you that the U.S. Government must look at this takeover bid and measure it against our nation's antitrust laws. We must begin a rigorous antitrust investigation by the Department of Justice. House and Senate Committees must also investigate this merger proposal thoroughly.

It is our duty, it is our obligation, it is our responsibility as Members of Congress to represent the best interests of our constituents and our nation, and to hold the feet of the responsible agencies of the Federal Government to the fire to make sure that their review is thorough, careful, and fair.

I am convinced that, if they look at this deal, they will find that it is more anti-competitive than the 2000 United-US Airways merger, which the Justice Department opposed. I am convinced that this deal is more anti-competitive than almost any other airline combination possible.

Over the years, Delta has been a significant economic engine, fueling the region's growth. It has helped to make Atlanta one of the world's most important international transportation centers. The potential loss of Atlanta as Delta's home would be a tragedy—a real blow to Atlanta, to the State of Georgia, and the people of the United States.

Madam Speaker, this is a bad deal. That is why we are speaking here tonight, and we will continue to speak in opposition to this takeover bid until it is off the table. We want to secure Delta's future as a strong, stand-alone company in the heart of Atlanta.

Madam Speaker, I yield to Mr. SCOTT.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I think it is very important for us to make sure that we sum up these major points that we have made here this evening, and that is this: one, this planned hostile takeover, which hopefully we will arrest and stop in the next few days, is anti-consumer, it is anti-competitive; it is not in the best interests of the American traveling public, it is not in the best interests of

the creditors to Delta, and it certainly violates, as the gentleman from Utah so eloquently stated point by point, it clearly violates the antitrust statutes of the Justice Department of this country.

So it is within the spirit of what is good and what is right about America, and let me say this to my colleagues and to you, Madam Speaker, that this country is grounded on justice. The American people are expecting justice. This is not just a case for Delta Airlines; it is not just a case for the airline industry. This is a case for the American people, and they are looking at this Congress to provide leadership, keep the feet to the fire, and make sure that this hostile takeover does not take place in the form of any kind of merger, and that Delta Airlines is allowed to stand alone and earn the right that they deserve to come back full flushed and be the outstanding airline that we know that they are.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6411, TAX RELIEF AND HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-722) on the resolution (H. Res. 1099) relating to consideration of the bill (H.R. 6411) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the Tax Court may review claims for equitable innocent spouse relief and to suspend the running on the period of limitations while such claims are pending, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6406, TRADE LAWS MODIFICATION

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-723) on the resolution (H. Res. 1100) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6406) to modify temporarily certain rates of duty and make other technical amendments to the trade laws, to extend certain trade preference programs, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 5682, HENRY J. HYDE U.S.-INDIA PEACEFUL ATOMIC ENERGY COOPERATION ACT OF 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-724) on the resolution (H. Res. 1101) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 5682) to exempt from certain requirements of the

Atomic Energy Act of 1954 a proposed nuclear agreement for cooperation with India, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-725) on the resolution (H. Res. 1102) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. FATTAH (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and December 8 on account of personal business.

Mr. GERLACH (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today after 6:00 p.m. on account of a family commitment.

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. BROWN of Ohio) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

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

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. COSTELLO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. HEFLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KING of Iowa, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. REGULA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SAXTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HUNTER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. REICHERT, for 5 minutes, December 8.

Mr. MCCREERY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2322. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1219. An act to authorize certain tribes in the State of Montana to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights to meet the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association.

S. 2250. An act to award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, December 8, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

10459. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Air Force, Case Number 05-03, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

10460. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Army, Case Number 05-12, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

10461. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, Case Number 05-01, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

10462. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, Case Number 05-02, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

10463. A letter from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

10464. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Installations and Environment, Department of Defense, transmitting Notification of an initial performance decision to convert functions currently performed by Department of the Navy personnel to contract performance for Satellite

Operations in Oxnard, CA; Finegayan, GU; Prospect Harbor, ME; and Falcon AFB, CO; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10465. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's quarterly report as of September 30, 2006, entitled, "Acceptance of contributions for defense programs, projects and activities; Defense Cooperation Account," pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2608; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10466. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement Vice Admiral Charles L. Munns, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10467. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement Vice Admiral Walter B. Massenburg, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10468. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General James L. Jones, Jr., United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10469. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jan C. Huly, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10470. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of the enclosed list of officers to wear the insignia of the next higher grade in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10471. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General John R. Vines, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10472. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert T. Clark, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10473. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Larry J. Dodgen, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10474. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Edward Hanlon, Jr., United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10475. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement Vice Admiral Justin D. McCarthy, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

10476. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to Mexico pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

10477. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to the Republic of Korea, Luxembourg and other countries yet to be determined pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

10478. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the annual report of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for the year 2005, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 78ggg(c)(2); to the Committee on Financial Services.

10479. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting the annual report of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity for Fiscal Year 2006, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1145(e); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

10480. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the twenty-sixth annual report on the implementation of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 by departments and agencies which administer programs of Federal financial assistance, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6106a(b); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

10481. A letter from the Chairperson, National Council on Disability, transmitting a copy of the NCD's "National Disability Policy: A Progress Report," as required by Section 401(b)(1) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, covering the period from December 2004 through December 2005, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 781(a)(8); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

10482. A letter from the Chairperson, National Council on Disability, transmitting the Council's report entitled, "Creating Livable Communities," pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 781(a)(8); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

10483. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual report, covering the fiscal year from October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2005, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 797(d); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

10484. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled "Performance Improvement 2006: Evaluation Activities of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services," as required by Section 241(b) of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

10485. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's report entitled, "Assessment of Demand Response and Advanced Metering," as required by Section 1252 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

10486. A letter from the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, American Battle Monuments Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual report in accordance with the FAIR Act of 1998, 31 U.S.C. 501; to the Committee on Government Reform.

10487. A letter from the Assistant to the President for Presidential Personnel, Office of Presidential Personnel, transmitting Notification that the Office is working to make an appointment to the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, pursuant to Pub. L. 101-163; to the Committee on House Administration.