

is beside the point, my belief is on every occasion, if a Member wanted to withdraw an amendment, we allowed that Member to do that. I hope that will be the process from now on in this Congress as well. I would be pleased to have your reassurance that we are headed in that direction.

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding. I certainly reassure you we are moving in that direction, and I would hope that would be the case. I hope the gentleman will take this as a very friendly observation that in this case, the gentleman wouldn't take apparently yes for an answer. We were going to give him an amendment.

As you know, the day before we had been bitterly criticized for not giving amendments. I was not there and I did not participate in this decision, but the committee was confronted with wanting to be in a position to give an amendment. Then when they were told the gentleman didn't want the amendment, they in effect took yes for an answer. The gentleman did not.

I understand that. We want to accommodate that. You are absolutely right. If a Member doesn't want to offer the amendment, he didn't have to offer the amendment, he did not offer the amendment. Nobody has been forced to offer an amendment. He was given the opportunity to do so.

But we do understand that Members make decisions that maybe that is not what I want to do, and I would like to withdraw it. Certainly I hope we will accommodate Members in the future.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank you for that response. I would hope that would be the case. It has happened frequently. The gentleman has made no suggestion that this is unique or no one has ever thought about this before. It has happened frequently. When it has happened in the past, generally submitted by Members on your side to a Rules Committee at that time controlled by our side, when the Member said, wait a minute, I've changed my mind, that was always honored, with no sense of no, wait a minute; you put the piece of paper down, you now have to stick with it, even though we haven't acted yet.

Mr. HOYER. I want to say, Mr. Leader, we also wanted to give you a substitute, but you didn't want that either, and we didn't give you that substitute, then, I guess.

In any event, your point is well taken, and I don't want to be jocular about the fact. We really do want to make sure that you can come to this floor and think you are being treated fairly and openly and have an opportunity to make your legislative case. That is the way this body ought to work.

I know the first 2½ weeks now we have been moving on an agenda, rules changes and others, that we wanted to get done. As you know, some of these have involved rules changes, as this particular bill did.

As you know, although Mr. DREIER talked about having hearings on this,

rarely does either side have hearings on the rules it presents. The rules package is put together by the majority party and there aren't hearings on it. It is offered on the floor and it is voted up or down. In this case we offered your rules, as you know, as they were in being in the 109th Congress. There were some additions we wanted to make.

But your point is well taken. I share your view that we want to make sure, whether we disagree, that you feel you got the opportunity on your side of the aisle to make your case.

Mr. BLUNT. Well, I appreciate my friend's comments. We look forward to that happening. I think we all will benefit from more debate, more discussion. That has always been the desire here, and often the minority doesn't feel like they get quite their opportunity to do that, but we hope that we have an opportunity to do that and look forward to moving to a process to where all the Members are involved, the new Members.

Some of these issues, I will admit, that we have dealt with in the last 2 weeks, in fact in the last Congress, the Congress I was in the majority in, passed bills highly similar. But the 60 new Members didn't get to participate in committee.

But that is behind us. I am prepared to look forward. I hope that we have those opportunities. We will look carefully at the character of the CR and hope that it is as minimal in its changes as possible and that all the members of the Appropriations Committee are part of that discussion.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. HOYER. Madam 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 Maryland?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. STENY H. HOYER AND HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH JANUARY 29, 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 24, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STENY H. HOYER and the Honorable CHRIS VAN HOLLEN to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through January 29, 2007.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER, REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER, Republican Leader:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 24, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 88b-3, I am pleased to appoint the Honorable SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO of West Virginia to the Page Board. Ms. CAPITO has expressed her interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill her request.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PAGE BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 88b-3 and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the House of Representatives Page Board:

Mr. KILDEE, Michigan
Ms. DEGETTE, Colorado.

HONORING GLENN H. CURTISS, A TRUE TRANSPORTATION PIONEER

(Mr. KUHL of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Glenn H. Curtiss from my hometown of Hammondsport, New York. Glenn Curtiss was a true transportation pioneer.

This week, I introduced House Resolution 84 to recognize Glenn Curtiss for setting the world's speed record on the first V-8 powered motorcycle exactly 100 years ago today. In honor of that ride in 1907, the Curtiss Museum and the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, which is the "birthplace of speed," hosted a Curtiss motorcycle run on the beach today, January 24, 2007.

In addition to his recordbreaking speed, which was 137 miles an hour, Mr. Curtiss was the founder of the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company, now part of the Curtiss-Wright Corporation. Glenn Curtiss also developed the first successful sea plane and manufactured the famous World War I Jenny training plane.

Again, Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Glenn Curtiss, and I encourage all Members to join me in honoring the legacy of Mr. Curtiss and cosponsoring House Resolution 84.