Three commemorative coins. Earlier in this session, the House passed under suspension of the rules both the Lewis and Clark commemorative coin to be minted in the year 2004 and the Leif Ericson commemorative coin to be minted next year or, at least, the memorial year. The latter coin will be minted in conjunction with the Republic of Iceland, which will simultaneously mint and issue a coin to commemorate the millennium of Leif Ericson’s arrival in the New World, a watershed event in the development of our continent. The third coin will commemorate the Capitol Visitors Center, for which Congress has already appropriated $100 million that will be supplemented by private funds.

All three coins are supported by the Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee, the U.S. Mint, and fall within the parameters of the Commemorative Coin Reform Act of 1996, which restricts the minting of commemorative coins to no more than two per calendar year.

All coins also pay for themselves and generate proceeds that are devoted to important activities. For instance, the minting and issuance of the Lewis and Clark commemorative coin will be done at no cost to the American taxpayer, and proceeds from its sale will accrue to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council and the National Park Service. Both of these organizations are currently preparing for the bicentennial celebration of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Similarly, proceeds from the sale of the Leif Ericson coin will go to the Leifur Eiríksson Foundation for the purpose of funding student exchanges between the United States and Iceland. And, lastly, proceeds from the Capitol Visitors Center coin will accrue to the Capitol Preservation Commission for the purpose of aiding the construction, maintenance, and preservation of a Capitol Visitors Center at the center of the new millennium.

Mr. Leach. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. Leach. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LaFalce. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LaFalce) for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise as a co-chair of the Friends of Norway Caucus and would like to recognize the contributions of Leif Ericson as the original European to set foot in the North American continent and the establishment of permanent settlements by Scandinavian and Icelandic explorers a thousand years ago. I know that all of us have grown up learning about Christopher Columbus and what he did with his explorations and the so-called “founding” of the New World. But all of us also know that the indigenous residents of this continent had been here for thousands of years before, so it is somewhat of an insult to say that the Europeans “discovered” this continent because it had been discovered for centuries and inhabited.

But, Mr. Speaker, it is interesting to note that there are these various hardy souls that ventured forth from Europe looking for new land, new territory to settle, riches, extending the religious beliefs that they held so dearly. It is also interesting to note that as we approach the year 2000, it is a thousand years since Leif Ericson set foot in what is now thought to be Newfoundland.

It is also interesting to note that these Scandinavian settlers in the Western Hemisphere actually established farmsteads and it is estimated there were as many as 400 of them in Greenland and that these settlements endured for several centuries. In fact, longer than many of the regions of the United States have been settled. So, indeed, European peoples were on the North American continent and established settlements for centuries before our beloved Christopher Columbus actually set foot here.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly appreciate the bill that has been introduced by my colleagues and the recognition of Leif Ericson’s exploits.

Mr. Leach. Mr. Speaker, I, have no speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Providing for Consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules

H. RES. 374

Resolved, That it shall be in order at any time on or before the legislative day of Wednesday, November 17, 1999, for the Speaker to entertain motions to suspend the rules, provided that the object of any such motion is announced from the floor at least one hour prior to its consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

SEC. 2. Provides that House Resolution 342 is laid on the table.
they gave me 1 hour's notice. I thought I was going to get that same gracious accommodation that I got last week, but something changed. This week, we get nothing.

The problems with the bills coming up too quickly are really not only limited to the minority. Even the major-

Res. 374.

So I urge my colleagues to oppose this rule.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to say that I suspect that the gentleman's statement was written last week when we thought we might be considering this. We are not asking for every day to be a suspension day, only one day, tomorrow. This expires tomorrow.

I will say, from having been in contact with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), the majority leader, I know that they want to contact the Members, as I said, at least an hour before and maybe even hours before suspensions come to the floor.

I guess I should also say that, if we continue to hear a real complaint about this, maybe we will not ever be able to make those kinds of modifications to the rules in the future. But we will always take into consideration the very thoughtful arguments that are propounded by the gentleman from South Boston, Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY).

So I urge my colleagues to support this rule.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken, and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evi-

Messrs. BERRY, ENGLE, RODRIGUEZ and LEVIN changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARR of Georgia). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today in the order in which that motion was entertained, followed by the motion postponed from last Wednesday and approval of the Journal.

Votes will be taken in the following order: House Resolution 169, by the yeas and nays; House Concurrent Resolution 165, by the yeas and nays; House Concurrent Resolution 166, by the yeas and nays; House Concurrent Resolution 167, by the yeas and nays;