

that who have inadequate health insurance.

Clearly, we must again put on the table the fight for a national health care system; in my view a single-payer national health care system which guarantees health care to all people.

Mr. Speaker, when I go back to Vermont, and I am sure it is true for other Members who go back to their districts, they hear from their constituents, and their constituents say, "Government just is not working well. Why is government not working well?" And they are wrong. Government is working very, very well for those people who have a whole lot of money.

Mr. Speaker, if Americans are in the upper 1 percent, the upper 2 percent, are making \$300,000, \$500,000 a year, this Government is doing a great job for them. They have never had it better. Their tax rates have gone down. They have more power over their employees. Some of our Republican friends want to take away the restrictions which prevent them from polluting the environment. Government is working great for those people who are the upper-income people.

But, Mr. Speaker, for the vast majority of people it is true, Government is not working well. We have to ask why. That takes us to the whole issue of campaign finance reform.

Mr. Speaker, it is a very scary proposition that in the last national election that we had, November 1994, when Mr. GINGRICH and the Republicans took power here and Republicans took power in the Senate, that all of 38.5 percent of the people came out to vote. That is pretty bad.

It is even more scary to understand the role that money has in the political process. Frankly, I get a little bit tired of hearing about all the millionaires and billionaires who continue to run for office. If we continue to have millionaires running for office and getting elected, not only to Congress but to seats in various State houses and Governors' offices, maybe we should change the name of this institution from the House of Representatives to the House of Lords, and be clear that what this is is a hall for the privileged ladies and gentlemen of the upper class who have purchased their seats by taking out their wallets and spending millions and millions of dollars to get elected.

□ 2320

That is not what democracy is about. We should not be buying seats in Congress or buying seats in the Senate or buying seats in Governors' offices all over America. Clearly, we need campaign finance reform. The elements of that reform to my mind most importantly must be a limitation on how much an individual can spend when he or she runs for office, let us have a level playing field.

No. 2, we should be matching public funding with small contributions. If somebody is able to go out and get a

significant number of checks for \$25 or \$50, we should match the public funding. If we do that, we will have a fairer playing field and the wealthy and the powerful will not be able to buy seats in the U.S. Congress and, therefore, have a Congress which supports their agenda.

Far too often politics in this institution is about is payback time, payback time. You contribute a whole lot of money to the party of your choice and lo and behold, you get huge tax breaks for corporations, tax breaks for the wealthy, and other Government policy which favors those people who have money.

The last point that I want to make, Mr. Speaker, is that I think perhaps the most frightening development which is taking place in our country today is that tens and tens of millions of Americans, mostly low income and working people, are giving up on the political process. They do not vote. They do not get involved locally. They do not pay attention to what is going on. And in many ways, this country is becoming less and less democratic as a result of that.

If people out there, people throughout this country, think that politics is not important, that what happens in this institution is not important, pay attention to what is happening now. If you are a young person who works for a living and you are receiving an earned tax credit, understand that that earned income tax credit is going to be cut so that we can provide tax breaks for the wealthiest people in this country. Do you think that is important? It will be harder for you to raise your family.

If you think that politics is not important, we should ask the elderly people who will be forced to pay \$300 a year more in premiums for Medicare. We should ask those families throughout the country today who have disabled members in their family, who have children, who are going to see major cutbacks in Medicaid. That is what politics is about.

If you think that politics is not important and you are a young person trying to go to college and you do not have a whole lot of money, understand that as a result of politics, understand that as a result of decisions being made right here in this House of Representatives, it may be impossible for large numbers of working class young people to afford to go to college because of major cutbacks in student loans and in student grants.

If you are a veteran who has put your life on the line defending this country, understand that what politics is about is that veterans programs are going to be cut so that we can build more B-2 bombers that the Pentagon does not even want.

Yes, you may not think so, but politics is relevant to every person's life in America. The politics of what is going on here today is that the wealthy people to a very large degree own this in-

stitution. If you want to know what goes on, all you have to do is follow the money. The money is coming in and decisions are being made which reward those people who have the money. The only way to stop it is if the vast majority of the American people, the people who are working long hours and are not getting a fair shake in terms of the wages they are receiving, people who do not have health insurance, people who cannot afford to send their kids to college, the decent people of this country, the backbone of this country, if those people begin to stand up and fight for their rights, we can turn this institution around. We can turn this country around. But if you do not, then what will happen is the wealthy, small numbers of people but people with tremendous resources will continue to dominate this institution. That is what the struggle is about.

So I would hope that people who pay homage, Veterans Day just came, and we paid our respect and homage to the men and women who put their lives on the line, but what they did is fought to keep this country free and to keep this country a democracy. We are not honoring them, if we do not get involved in the political process, if we do not stand up and fight for policies which impact all the people of this country and not just the very wealthy. That is what politics is about.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. (Mr. BARR of Georgia). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House will now stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2347

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BARR) at 11 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.

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. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. OLVER, for 5 minutes, today.
Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. WISE, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. ENGLISH, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. KIM, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. ANDREWS, for 5 minutes, today.

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

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

Mr. TAUZIN.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

Ms. BROWN of Florida.

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

Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

Mr. STENHOLM.

Mr. LEACH.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin.

Mr. JACOBS.

Mr. MANTON.

Mr. STARK.

Mr. SERRANO.

Mr. VISCLOSKY.

Mr. CARDIN.

Mr. ORTIZ.

Mr. STOKES in two instances.

Mrs. MALONEY.

Mr. FILNER.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOLEY) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. DAVIS.

Mrs. SMITH of Washington.

Mr. HORN.

Mr. GILMAN.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SANDERS) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. TEJEDA.

Mrs. CLAYTON.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.

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. 325. An act to make certain technical corrections in laws relating to Native Americans, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that

committee has examined and found truly enrolled bills and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2394. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 1995, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans;

H.R. 2586. An act to provide for a temporary increase in the public debt limit, and for other purposes;

H.R. 2589. An act to extend authorities under the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994 until December 31, 1995, and for other purposes; and

H.J. Res. 115. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1996 and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee did on the following date present to the President, for his approval, bills of the House of the following title:

On November 12, 1995:

H.R. 2586. An act to provide for a temporary increase in the public debt limit, and for other purposes;

H.R. 2589. An act to extend authorities under the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act of 1994 until December 31, 1995, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 2394. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 1995, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, November 14, 1995, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1658. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the annual report on conditional registration of pesticides during fiscal year 1994, pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 136w-4; to the Committee on Agriculture.

1659. A letter from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting legislative language for the Federal crop insurance title of the 1995 farm bill, to the Committee on Agriculture.

1660. A letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting the annual report on the Youth Conservation Corps Program in the Department for fiscal year 1994, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1705; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

1661. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting the Department's report

on the evaluation of utility early replacement programs for alliances, pursuant to Public Law 102-486, section 127(a), 128 (106 Stat. 2835, 2836); to the Committee on Commerce.

1662. A letter from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's superfund financial activities at the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry for fiscal year 1993, pursuant to Public Law 99-499, Section 120(e)(5)(100 Stat. 1669); to the Committee on Commerce.

1663. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting the Department's report on the status of the U.S. uranium industry at the end of calendar year 1994, pursuant to the Energy Policy Act of 1992; to the Committee on Commerce.

1664. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting the Department's study of a representative sample of light-duty alternative fuel vehicles in Federal fleets, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 6374(b)(1); to the Committee on Commerce.

1665. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting the Department's report on the current status and likely impacts of integrated resource planning in the United States; to the Committee on Commerce.

1666. A letter from the Inspector General, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's annual report to Congress summarizing the Agency's progress during fiscal year 1994 in implementing the requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, pursuant to Public Law 99-499, section 120(e)(5) (100 Stat. 1669); to the Committee on Commerce.

1667. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certifications and waivers and their justification under section 565(b) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, fiscal years 1994 and 1995 of the prohibition against contracting with firms that comply with the Arab League boycott of the State of Israel contracting with firms that discriminate in the award of subcontracts on the basis of religion, pursuant to Public Law 103-236, section 565(b) (108 Stat. 845); to the Committee on International Relations.

1668. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Land Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the annual report on royalty management and collection activities for Federal and Indian mineral leases in 1993 and 1994, pursuant to 30 U.S.C. 237; to the Committee on Resources.

1669. A letter from the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's report entitled "Storm Water Discharges Potentially Addressed By Phase II Of The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Storm Water Program"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1670. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting the Department's second edition of the Surface Transportation Research and Development plan, pursuant to Public Law 102-240, section 6009(b)(8) (105 Stat. 2177); jointly, to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Science.

1671. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the fiscal year 1996 budget requests of the Federal Aviation Administration, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 48109; jointly, to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Science.

1672. A letter from the Chair, Good Neighbor Environmental Board, transmitting the first annual report of the Good Neighbor Environmental Board; jointly, to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Commerce.