

membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KINGSTON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 395. An act to designate the United States courthouse and Federal building to be constructed at the southeastern corner of Liberty and South Virginia Streets in Reno, Nevada, as the "Bruce R. Thompson United States Courthouse and Federal Building."

The message also announced that the Senate had passed a joint resolution of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S.J. Res. 38. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the Vermont-New Hampshire Interstate Public Water Supply Compact.

PRIVATE CALENDAR

The SPEAKER. This is Private Calendar day.

The Clerk will call the first individual bill on the Private Calendar.

ARTHUR J. CARRON, JR

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 418) for the relief of Arthur J. Carron, Jr.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill as follows:

H.R. 418

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WAIVER OF TIME LIMITATIONS.

The time limitations set forth in section 3702(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall not apply with respect to a claim by Arthur J. Carron, Jr., of Bark River, Michigan, for amounts due to him by the Department of the Navy. The amounts due are represented by the following checks that were received but not negotiated by Arthur J. Carron, Jr.:

(1) Treasury check number 2,831,843, dated October 18, 1966, in the amount of \$10,850.74 for salary and expenses.

(2) Treasury check number 10,445,856, dated January 29, 1971, in the amount of \$1,361.00 for salary and expenses.

(3) Treasury check number 71,681,041, dated April 1, 1971, in the amount of \$562.25 for retirement pay.

SEC. 2. DEADLINE.

Section 1 shall apply only if Arthur J. Carron, Jr., or his authorized representative, submits a claim pursuant to such section before the expiration of the 3-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BENCHMARK RAIL GROUP, INC.

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 419) for the relief of Benchmark Rail Group, Inc.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill as follows:

H.R. 419

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDING AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDING.—The Congress finds that Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., of St. Louis, Missouri, satisfactorily performed emergency work after the Northridge earthquake, but has not been reimbursed as a result of a technicality under California State law.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to fairly compensate Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., for the work for which, except for the technicality under California State law, it would otherwise have been paid under the provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121).

SEC. 2. PAYMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall pay to Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., of St. Louis, Missouri, an amount equal to the total amount owed to Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State of California to compensate Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., for the emergency work and services performed at the request of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority to the extent that such work and services are otherwise eligible for reimbursement under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121). The payment shall be made from funds appropriated to implement such Act.

(b) DEOBLIGATION OF FUNDS.—The Federal Emergency Management Agency shall deobligate an equal amount to that obligated previously for payment to the State of California to cover the costs of work performed for the Southern California Regional Rail Authority by Benchmark Rail Group, Inc., after the Northridge earthquake which would have been eligible for reimbursement under such Act.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

KRIS MURTY

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 1315) for the relief of Kris Murty.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill as follows:

H.R. 1315

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RELOCATION EXPENSES FOR KRIS MURTY.

For the purpose of receiving reimbursement for relocation expenses under sections 5724 and 5724a of title 5, United States Code, Kris Murty of El Paso, Texas, an employee of the Department of the Army, is deemed to have been an employee transferred by the Department of the Army from one official station to another for permanent duty when he relocated from Houston, Texas, to Fort Bliss, Texas, in February 1985.

SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON AGENTS AND ATTORNEYS FEES.

No amount exceeding 10 percent of a payment made pursuant to section 1 may be paid to or received by any agent or attorney in consideration for services rendered in connection with the payment. Any person who

violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an infraction and shall be subject to a fine in the amount provided under title 18, United States Code.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This concludes the call of the Private Calendar.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize 20 1-minutes on each side.

LET OUR PEOPLE GO

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, let our people go, let them go back to work.

Yesterday, we passed a budget resolution saying we would balance the budget in 7 years using CBO figures. Let us do it.

I would like to, during this third day of Hanukkah, with 6 days before Christmas, point out there is a face to this shutdown of Government, this partial shutdown. Yes, it affects 260,000 Federal employees and their families who are victims. Yes, it affects the private sector, those who have contracts, yes, it affects the financial market.

But I would like you to know, as I was driving in this morning I saw two cars in the driveway, two doors over, people who are usually gone at 7 o'clock in the morning, and that is because one of them works at Health and Human Services and one works at Commerce. They have four children. They have two children who are currently in college, and they are hit by the facts that we have not come up with a balanced budget.

I would also like to reflect the fact about a pharmacist at NIH, the human face is something we have got to realize and get on with our job.

BRING UP A CONTINUING RESOLUTION

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I am a little weighted down today, as you can see, but I just wanted to point out that, and this is following up on what the gentlewoman from Maryland just said, that the reason that the Federal Government is shut down today is because the Republican majority has not brought up a continuing resolution to let the Government continue to operate.

On Friday they did not bring one up. Yesterday they did not bring one up. Today again I have heard no talk of bringing it up.

I think it is simply not fair to keep the Government shut down while we

will discuss the budget. We should simply negotiate the budget. We have our differences, and they can be brought out and they can be negotiated. But in the interim, the Republican majority has an obligation to bring a continuing resolution to the floor and let the Government continue to operate, and I know that Frank also believes in that and so does Rose Marie.

BALANCING OUR FEDERAL BUDGET FOR OUR CHILDREN

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I so happy my good friend from New Jersey brought his children to the floor of this body, because I think it demonstrates, it demonstrates so clearly why we have to work out these problems.

Because you see, as desirable in one sense as a continuing resolution might be to some, to the country, to the financial markets, that is just a continuation of the same old tax-and-spend mantra. In fact, the child that my colleague from New Jersey had in his arms, his son, if we do nothing to change the course of action that we are on, that little boy will pay over \$185,000 in taxes just on the national debt.

So it is precisely for those children and the children of Federal workers and all children in America and, indeed, all generations, that we work now to put aside partisan differences and balance our Federal budget.

Our children, our country, deserve no less.

BUDGET MUST REFLECT PRIORITIES OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, if we pass the Republican budget, the children of the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] will have the air that they breathe fouled, the water they drink dirty, we will deny them their opportunity for student loans to be able to get an education.

This Republican budget does exactly what it says it does, and it denies children opportunity, if you take a look at it, chapter and verse, and you look at the fine print.

Last month, Mr. Speaker, Speaker GINGRICH shut down the Government because he did not like his seat on Air Force One. Now, he is at it again. What was it this time that caused the Speaker's tantrum? Who knows? Perhaps he was invited to breakfast at the White House and President Clinton got two slices of bacon while Speaker GINGRICH only got one.

What we do know is the American people have rejected Speaker GINGRICH's budget, a budget which would devastate Medicare, Medicaid, and edu-

cation, to finance a tax cut for the wealthy. Instead of listening to the American people, the Speaker chooses to shut down the Government to get his way. That is not leadership. It is childish.

The Speaker should have a budget that reflects the priorities of the American public, not his own.

SANTA DOES NOT LIVE IN WASHINGTON, DC

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, politicians in this town have dressed up as Santa Claus, popped down the chimney and robbed American families blind. On, sure, they have given gifts to their special-interest friends, but they have used the American people's credit card to do it, and all they have left our kids is a debt so huge that every single child born this year inherits a bill for \$187,000 just to pay the interest, just the interest, on the national debt.

These fake Santas, Mr. Speaker, take more than our milk and cookies. They gorge themselves on everything they can get their hands on, and then they claim that American families do not really need their taxes cut.

But the fact of the matter is that these fake Santas are eating the average family out of house and home. We have to slow the growth of wasteful Government spending, Mr. Speaker. We have to cut taxes. We have to cut the waste.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve no less. It is time to remember that Santa Claus does not live in Washington, DC.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUNN of Oregon). The Chair reminds Members when they are addressing the House not to be accompanied by others who are not Members.

LUCRATIVE NEW BUSINESS: BODY BROKERING

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the stock market fell 101 points, 2 percent of its total value. Everybody is making a lot of excuses.

The truth of the matter is America has become a paper tiger. Check this out: One of the most lucrative new businesses in America is body brokering. That is right, selling cadavers, dead bodies, for up to \$1,500.

Think about it, it is getting to the point the only way to make a living in America is over someone's dead body.

But if you are not surprised about that, what is the big surprise, folks?

When an American needs a Ph.D. just to figure out the first page of the tax code, you know something is screwed up. I wonder how the Labor Department is going to classify this new profession: Human resource procurement specialist? I guarantee there will be five or six jobs that will be assigned as definitions to body brokering jobs.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker.

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U.S. ECONOMY AT STAKE IN BUDGET BATTLE

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, a minute is not very long. I will try. The budget economic ills clobber the market. The four chaps that came down 2 months ago, I talked to on the phone, they are saying here is what the market is thinking, that they are afraid we are not going to achieve a balanced budget. Therefore, the market is going down, largest drop in 4 years. We have seen interest rates go up. That has got to be a signal to use. We have got to pay attention.

In the Washington Post today, Jim Glassman writes, "As long as the President can pose as the saviour of Medicare, with the public blaming Congress for Government shutdowns, he is not going to negotiate seriously." Why should he?

Here is the bottom line of my message. Democrats, give me your ear: Everybody in this Chamber, or most everybody, wants a better America, better place to live and work. How are we going to come to grips with our overpromises and our overspending if we cannot keep borrowing the money simply to pay our bills? Let us get together. Let us do it. The market is at stake. The U.S. economy is at stake.

NOW WE MUST DECIDE ON SPENDING PRIORITIES

(Mr. DOYLE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I was in my district this weekend and I spoke with many people throughout western Pennsylvania who are upset with the budget impasse here in Washington. One of my constituents, Joe Palumbo, put it to me quite simply when he said—"MIKE, why can't Republicans and Democrats, stop bickering and sit down together and work out their differences.

It's a good question. Yesterday over 350 members of this House agreed to balance the budget in 7 years using the latest CBO economic assumptions. We agree on balancing the budget, now we have to decide on spending priorities. Let me ask three things of my colleagues, both Democrat and Republican as an early Christmas present.