

House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole House under the 5-minute rule: Committee on Agriculture; Committee on Banking and Financial Services; Committee on Commerce; Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; Committee on International Relations; Committee on the Judiciary; Committee on National Security; Committee on Resources; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

It is my understanding that the minority has been consulted and that there is no objection to these requests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York.

Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I will not object, we have consulted with the Members on our side of the aisle on the committees that the gentleman just mentioned, and we have no objection to the unanimous consent request.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for carrying on the comity of the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON]?

There was no objection.

WITHDRAWAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of House Joint Resolution 2.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

REVISED DEFERRAL AND REVISED RESCISSION PROPOSALS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 104-40)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. I laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, I herewith report one revised deferral, totaling \$7.3 million, and two

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of section 3 of Public Law 94-304, as amended by section 1 of Public Law 99-7, the Chair, without objection, appoints to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe the following Members of the House: Mr. PORTER of Illinois; Mr. WOLF of Virginia; Mr. FUNDERBURK of North Carolina; Mr. SALMON of Arizona; Mr. HOYER of Maryland; Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts; Mr. RICHARDSON of New Mexico; and Mr. CARDIN of Maryland.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES GROUP OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of 22 U.S.C. 1928a, the chair, without objection, appoints to the United States Group of the North Atlantic Assembly the following Members of the House: Mr. ROSE of North Carolina; Mr. HAMILTON of Indiana; Mr. COLEMAN of Texas; and Mr. RUSH of Illinois.

There was no objection.

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SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NEY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members are recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. TORKILDSEN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. BRYANT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Georgia [Mr. LEWIS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today marks the midway point in NEWT GINGRICH's Contract With America. It is an extremist document which sets back the clock. It is a contract which rewards the wealthy at the expense of our children, our senior citizens, the poor and hard working class Americans. Let's look back over the past 50 days and review what this band of extremists has done.

The new majority has reduced the number of police that were to patrol our city streets through their crime bill—this is their Contract With America. They have proposed denying food to hungry school children through elimination of the School Lunch Program—this is their Contract With America. The Republican majority has passed a bill which will make it more difficult to protect our air and keep our water clean. They would cut nutrition programs for our senior citizens—these, too, are the Contract With America. The Republicans seek to gut the Corporation for Public Broadcasting which through its PBS stations provides educational television for us and our children—this is the Contract With America. And the Republicans have vowed "to fight with all their being" a small increase in the minimum wage, a wage which provides those who receive it a living standard 30% below the poverty level—alas, this also is the Contract With America.

And the new, extreme, Republicans have done all this while advocating tax cuts for the top 1% of Americans. This, my friends, all of this, is their Contract With America.

Of course, not everything they have done these 50 days has been bad. The Congress did pass the Congressional Accountability Act which makes the Congress live by the same Labor and Civil Rights laws as those in the private sector. Of course, the last Congress, the Democratic Congress, passed the same bill with more than 400 votes.

Mr. Speaker, if these are the accomplishments of the Republican Congress, if this is what they've done to us in the first 50 days, imagine what they'll do to us in the next 50 days and in the next two years.

We need a government that is leaner, not a government that is meaner. We need a federal government that is less bureaucratic, not one that is less compassionate.

NEWT GINGRICH and his Republican colleagues have gone too far. In their rush to the right, they have forgotten not just those on the left, but those in

They want to earn a decent wage and be able to save a little money at the end of each month. All of these things, Mr. Speaker, all of these are what the American people want. The Republican Contract With America does none of them.

The American people deserve better than this extreme Contract With America. And the time has come that we not just pray and we not just speak. The time has come for action. I did not sign this contract. The American people did not sign this contract. The time for action is now.

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA NOT FOR MIDDLE-CLASS FAMILIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. BONIOR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, if the Contract With America was a song, it would be "50 Ways to Leave the Middle Class." How is it possible that we have been in session 50 days, we have cast 150 votes, yet we have not passed one single amendment, not one, that addresses jobs, incomes, health, education, job training? You cannot send your kid to school on an unfunded mandate, Mr. Speaker.

On the issues more important to working middle class families, this contract has been silent for 50 days. And you know what, it is going to be silent for the next 50 days as well.

Instead, Republicans have voted to pull 100,000 police officers off the beat. They have said no to protecting Social Security, and they have said yes to Star Wars, a \$50 billion project, and on top of that, they want to balance the budget. But yet, what do they do? They go and vote for renewing Star Wars at a \$50 billion price tag. And, of course, today we saw in the supplemental, they busted the budget by voting for that. They said no to many things that are necessary for middle income people.

Now we read that in the next 50 days, they intend to cut the student lunch program.

Mr. Speaker, you cannot renew American civilization by making kids in America go hungry. Republicans may be in a rush to ditto every single bill, but in this rush to extremism, the Gingrich revolution is leaving the values of working families behind in this country.

We will meet them, as we discuss these issues that are important to working families over the next 50 days, and they will know and the American people will know that when it comes to

ma [Mr. KLINK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. KLINK addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. HILLEARY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HILLEARY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. BECERRA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BECERRA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

THE 104TH CONGRESS DELIVERS THE LEGISLATION AMERICA HAS WANTED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. SCARBOROUGH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I do agree with the previous speakers that now is the time for action, and that is exactly what we have been doing. I heard a previous speaker tell us that this Contract With America was a rush to extremism, I don't understand that, and a rush away from the middle class. I don't understand that.

When we look at poll after poll, survey after survey, everybody out there is agreeing on the very concepts that we are bringing to the floor these first 50 days.

We have pushed through a balanced budget amendment that the middle class wanted. We have pushed through a line-item veto. We have pushed

coast the type of legislation that they have been wanting. We have been delivering it for the first 50 days, and for anybody to stand up here and say that it is a rush to extremism ignores political reality in this country.

It has been a rush to the middle class, a rush back to the values that Americans have been begging for in their leadership, a rush back to the type of principles that Americans have been begging for.

Just imagine it, in 50 days we now have a Congress that has to abide by the same laws that they make all of American abide by. Just imagine, in the first 50 days, we now have a balanced budget amendment that has been passed from this House that requires the Federal Government to abide by the same laws that Americans have to abide by in writing their checks.

We cannot spend more money than we take in, according to our balanced budget amendment. What is so extreme about that? What is so extreme about cutting committee staff by one-third? What is so extreme about cutting congressional staff from 21 down to 16? There is nothing extreme about it.

This is what America has demanded. This is what America has asked for. This is what liberals have denied America from so long, and this is what we are delivering on. There is nothing extreme about the Contract With America, or this legislation that has been passed.

For all those pollsters and pundits and political experts out there that are trying to figure out why there was a conservative landslide on November 8, all you have to do is look at the leadership on the other side of the aisle and listen to what they have been talking about, saying that these measures are extremism. Come on, who are they fooling?

They are saying that they have nothing to do with jobs or income or health. Who do they think they are fooling? Anybody knows that when you cut regulations, when you put the type of regulatory reform on the table that we have put on the table, you are going to save jobs. You are going to create jobs. You are going to take the handcuffs off of small business men and women across this country, and allow them to create jobs.

When you pass a taxpayer protection plan that we passed the first day of Congress, that requires this body to pass new tax increases by a three-fifths vote in the 104th Congress, you are saving jobs and you are saving income from a middle class and a lower class