

tice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3259. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 3259) "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KYL, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. KERREY, Mr. GLENN, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. JOHNSTON, and Mr. ROBB; and from the Committee on Armed Services, Mr. THURMOND, and Mr. NUNN, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

PRIVATE CALENDAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is private calendar day. The Clerk will call the bill on the Private Calendar.

JOHN WESLEY DAVIS

The Clerk called the bill (H.R. 1886) for the relief of John Wesley Davis.

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

H.R. 1886

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 John Wesley Davis, of Forestville, Maryland, for the amounts due to him by the—

(1) Department of Veterans Affairs in the amount of \$6,296.00;

(2) Department of the Navy in the amount of \$42,123.84;

(3) Department of the Treasury in the amount of \$12,508.20; and

(4) District of Columbia in the amount of \$174.97 for local tax refund.

The amounts due are represented by checks that were received but not negotiated by John Wesley Davis.

SEC. 2. DEADLINE

Section 1 shall apply only if John Wesley Davis or his authorized representative submits a claim pursuant to such subsection before the expiration of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

With the following committee amendment in the nature of a substitute:

Committee amendment in the nature of a substitute: Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

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The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

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.

WELCOME TO REV. CAM MCCONNELL

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

Mr. CHRYSLER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure today that I welcome the Reverend Cam McConnell, a fourth-generation Presbyterian minister, to the House of Representatives and to thank him for leading this great body in prayer this afternoon.

I have known Reverend McConnell for over a decade as my pastor and as my best friend, and it is with great pride that I join him here on the floor today.

Reverend McConnell has meant a great deal to myself, my family, and hundreds more in the mid-Michigan community, serving as senior pastor for the First Presbyterian Church of Brighton, MI.

His guidance and support throughout the years has been invaluable not only to me, but also to the community for which he and his family have served so faithfully and freely.

His optimism, dedication, and encouragement are matched only by his unwavering devotion to God and his people.

His humble words of faith and wisdom have warmed the hearts of so many in our community. And it is with great respect and admiration that I thank him for his words and presence here today.

DOLE CAMPAIGN'S ACT OF POLITICAL DESPERATION: THE SENATOR WHO WAS FOOLED IN BAGHDAD CRITICIZES THE PRESIDENT WHO BOMBED IT

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

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, before a campaign led by Senator Bob Dole lashes out at President Clinton's policy on Iraq, humility should compel him to admit how deeply he misread Saddam Hussein before Desert Storm.

When we were trying to pass sanctions on Iraq that would have stopped Iraqi imports of Kansas wheat, Dole tried to derail those sanctions.

It was Dole who assured his colleagues that Saddam Hussein has chemical weapons but "does not intend to use them" although the entire world knew he had already used nerve gas against the Kurds.

Dole who said on TV shortly after the Iraqi invasion "We're a foreign power. We don't belong in that part of the world * * * It ought to be settled by Arabs."

Dole who said in October 1990 "we are in the Midwest for three letters, oil, O-I-L."

President Bush responded that day, charging, "You know, some people never get the word. The fight isn't about oil. The fight is about naked aggression that will not stand."

In fact, conservative columnist William Safire called Dole's attitude cynical and labeled him "a prime appeaser of Saddam Hussein."

The Senator who was fooled in Baghdad is on weak ground criticizing the President who bombed it.

FLOATING HOLIDAYS

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

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, our Nation's holidays were established by the people of the United States to honor, to celebrate, to remember, and reflect on major events in American history and culture. The celebration of Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Memorial Day, and Independence Day is critical to our heritage, and truly brings Americans together.

Recently, however, a constituent of mine who works for a large corporation, has informed me that his employer is trying to make Independence Day a floating holiday through union negotiations. They have already eliminated Veterans Day as a designated holiday.

This trend is very disturbing. The Fourth of July celebrates the very founding of our Nation.

A proper respect for our heritage and our history demands that we firmly resist allowing our historic celebrations to degenerate into nothing more than

3-day weekends or an excuse for stores to have special sales.

RAIL VOLUTION

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last week Washington, DC, was host to an annual conference, Rail Volution, where over 700 people from 8 countries, 41 States, and 118 cities gathered. As impressive as those numbers were, what was more impressive was the purpose of that gathering, working together, learning how to build livable communities using principles of sustainable development.

We are talking about light rail, intercity rail, managing the auto and transportation infrastructure, mixed use development. At a time when we are concerned about making our communities livable while dealing with the deficit, the Rail Volution message was a breath of fresh air: spending wiser, not raising taxes, making change, solving problems rather than creating them, and viewing citizen input as a valuable tool not citizens as an enemy.

This is an important message for us in Congress to hear and to act upon.

INCREASED DRUG USE IS INTOLERABLE

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Bill Clinton said on June 16, 1992, when asked about inhaling marijuana: Sure, I would inhale marijuana if I could, I tried before.

After he took office, Bill Clinton effectively abandoned the war on drugs. He slashed the White House Office of Drug Control Policy by 80 percent. He cut the number of drug enforcement agents and cut training for them. His National Security Council dropped the war on drugs from third to dead last among their priorities. His Surgeon General even suggested legalizing drugs.

What has been the result of all this? Overall drug use among kids 12 to 17 years old has gone up 78 percent. Marijuana use among the same group has gone up 105 percent, and LSD use has gone up 183 percent.

Mr. Speaker, this is intolerable. The American people need to know these facts. I hope they remember them in November.

LUXURY SUITES IN HOSPITALS FOR THE RICH

(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, while hospitals across America are cutting

services for mom and dad, the same hospitals are building luxury suites for the fat cats that make the Ritz Carlton look like Motel 6. A VIP can now get monogrammed bathrobes, satin sheets, antique furniture, a wet bar. And if that is not enough to inflame our hemorrhoids, VIP's can enjoy a spot of tea served by a waiter in a tuxedo carrying around silver trays of strawberries and truffles. Unbelievable.

While VIP's get gourmet food, mom and dad get line itemed, line itemed for toilet paper and aspirin. Beam me up.

Mr. Speaker, the truth is the CEO's of these HMO's keep lining their pockets with cash. I say they should be handcuffed to a chain link fence and flogged. Then sent to jail. Think about it. I yield back the balance of those line itemed toilet paper bills.

DRUG USE AND LOST OPPORTUNITY

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

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, marijuana use for teenagers is up, but interdiction is down. Teenage cocaine use is up, but enforcement is down. LSD and heroin use for teenagers are way up, but prison time for drug dealers is down.

Mr. Speaker, obviously what should be down is up, and what should be up is down. The Clinton administration has its priorities backward. Instead of cutting back on interdiction efforts, we should be stopping the flow of drugs at our borders. Instead of slapping the hands of drug dealers, we should be putting them in prison.

The Clinton administration's cuts in America's antidrug efforts have had their effect: Teenage drug use has exploded, and most schools unfortunately are not drug-free.

Mr. Speaker, we are losing the war on drugs because we have an administration unwilling to provide the leadership needed to stop our children from turning to a life of drugs and lost opportunity.

THE NATION'S POLICE ARE FIRMLY IN THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday President Clinton received the endorsement of the Fraternal Order of Police, an organization that represents the sizable majority of our country's policy officers.

President Clinton is the first Democrat running for President or being President endorsed by this organization. The endorsement came because of the President's strong anticrime, antidrug policies and initiatives for his tough sentencing policies, for community policing, 100,000 cops on the street.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that the president of the FOP is Gil Gallegos of Albuquerque, NM. So, Mr. Speaker, despite all this lofty rhetoric that the President is soft on crime, I am proud to say that the Nation's police officers are firmly in the President's corner.

SALUTE TO MISS AMERICA

(Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday evening in Atlantic City a constituent of mine, Miss Kansas, Tara Dawn Holland, was crowned Miss America 1996. Miss America lives in Overland Park, KA.

While I realize we must share Tara Dawn Holland's triumph with the State of Florida where she received her bachelors degree, and with the State of Missouri where she is working toward a masters degree at the University of Missouri at Kansas City, Kansans are proud of her achievement just the same.

Tara Dawn hopes to teach music in a middle school, and as Miss America wants to lead a national campaign against illiteracy.

Because Miss America is such a positive role model for many young Americans, Tara Dawn's willingness to be involved in the fight against illiteracy represents an opportunity to take another step forward in educating children to read.

Congratulations to Tara Dawn Holland.

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RELEASE THE GINGRICH ETHICS REPORT

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

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to once again add my voice to the growing chorus of Members of this House, editorial board writers, public interest groups, and American citizens calling for the release of the ethics report on Speaker GINGRICH.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I have a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. Lewis] will suspend.

The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LINDER] will state his point of order.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, is it within the rules of the House to refer to matters before the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct on the floor of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is not in order and the gentleman must proceed in order.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, further point of order. Is the gentleman in the well speaking out of order?