

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3497, the bill just considered.

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

There was no objection.

INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1834) to reauthorize the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1834

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

SECTION 1. REAUTHORIZATION.

Section 502(h) of the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4368b(h)) is amended by striking "\$15,000,000" and inserting "such sums as may be necessary".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALOMAVAEGA] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah [Mr. HANSEN].

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

S. 1834 would reauthorize the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act of 1992. That Act provides general assistance to Indian tribes so that they can address environmental issues on Indian lands.

Through the funding provided in this Act, Tribes are able to implement solid and hazardous waste programs on their own lands. In this way Tribes are able to fulfill self-government requirements by managing their own affairs using their own expertise and their own experience.

To date over 100 tribes have received grants under this act. At present tribes are developing environmental agreements which will identify environmental priorities and which will allow Tribes to implement programs for water quality, solid waste management, air quality, and pesticide management.

This is an important bill, Mr. Speaker. It authorizes such sums as may be necessary for what I understand is vital funding to Indian Tribes throughout our Nation.

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I recommend a yes vote on H.R. 1834, and I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. FALOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, S. 1834 simply amends the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act of 1992 to change the authorization of funds available under the program from the current level of \$15 million to "such sums as may be necessary". Funding levels will still be subject to inclusion in an appropriations bill and submitted each year to Congress.

This program awards general assistance grants to Indian tribal Governments to enhance their ability to manage environmental programs on Indian lands. To date approximately 100 tribes have received multi media grants allowing them to develop and implement environmental protection procedures. However the need far outweighs the current limit on funding. \$28 million is included in appropriations language for fiscal year 1997 for this program.

With the grant assistance from this program, Indian tribes have developed comprehensive environmental programs in the areas of solid and hazardous waste management, water and air quality, and pesticide management. The Penobscot Indian Nation of Maine has established an award winning water resources program. This program had been nationally recognized as a model for State-Tribal-Federal cooperation. Some tribes have been able to clean up solid and hazardous waste sites on their land with the help of this program. Still other tribes have closed open-air dumps, established recycling programs, identified leaking underground storage tanks and potential superfund sites.

Mr. Speaker, the cost of this program is minimal compared to the return this nation, in cooperation with American Indian nations, gains. I urge my colleagues to support passage of this bill.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. [Mr. BURTON of Indiana]. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah, Mr. HANSEN, that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1834.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 1834, the Senate bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF LEGISLATION TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

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

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 525, the following bills are expected to be considered under suspension of the rules on Thursday, September 26:

H. Con. Res. 180, Commending Americans in Cold War;

H.R. 3874, Civil Rights Commission;

H.R. 2977, Administrative Dispute Resolution Conference Report;

H. Con. Res. 145, Re: Removal of Russian Forces from Moldova;

H. Con. Res. 189, Re: U.S. Membership in South Pacific;

H. Con. Res. 51, Removal of Russian Troops;

H.R. 2579, Establish Tourism Board;

H.R. 3841, Civil Service Reform Act;

H.R. 3973, Alaska Natives;

H.R. 3752, American Land Sovereignty Protection;

H.R. 3068, Prairie Island;

H.R. 2505, Alaska native Claim Settlement Act Amendments;

H.R. 4168, Dealing with the sale of Helium;

H.R. 2660, Tensas River National Wildlife;

S. 1802, Wyoming Fish Conveyance;

H.R. 3804, Agua Caliente;

H.R. 4011, Congressional Pension Forfeiture Act;

S. 1970, National Museum of American Indian;

H.R. 3700, Internet Election;

S. 640, Water Resources Development Act Conference Report;

H.R. 3159, NTSB; and

H.R. 4138, Hydrogen Research & Development.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

HONORING RETIRING WOMEN MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to give this special order honoring the women Members who will be

retiring next year. I am saddened that so many talented women are planning to leave Congress, and I wanted to take this opportunity tonight to express our gratitude for their many contributions during their years of service.

I am going to proceed in order of years of service—first, PAT SCHROEDER, the dean of the women Members of Congress. PAT was elected in 1972, and became the first woman to serve on the House Armed Services Committee. During her service on that Committee, PAT has been the champion of women in the military and military families. She has also served on the Judiciary Committee for many years, where she led the fight to expand civil rights protections and reproductive rights for women.

For 1979 until 1995, PAT served as the co-chair, along with Senator OLYMPIA SNOWE, of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. Under their leadership, Congress approved a number of landmark bills, including the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Violence Against Women Act, the Civil Rights Restoration Act, the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act, which made great strides in bringing equity to women's health research, and so many other reforms benefiting women and children. I have been honored to be one of the two co-chairs, along with my colleague and good friend, NITA LOWEY, to succeed PAT and now-Senator OLYMPIA SNOWE.

PAT also served for many years as the chair of the former Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, and brought national attention to a number of issues facing children and families. She is currently serving as chair of the Women's Caucus Task Force on Children, Youth, and Families. I also had the pleasure of serving with her on the former Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, where she served as chair of the Civil Service Subcommittee, and I can also attest to her commitment to federally employed and retired women.

It is hard to imagine this House and the Women's Caucus without PAT SCHROEDER. She will be greatly missed.

CARDISS COLLINS is another distinguished senior woman in the House and the longest serving African-American woman in Congress. I have had the pleasure of serving with her on the Committee on Government Reform, and I have been impressed with her perseverance on that committee. She has been a strong advocate for women, families, the poor, and Federal workers and retirees.

During her service in Congress, CARDISS has worked to improve the health of women and minorities. She was the sponsor of legislation extending Medicare coverage for mammography screening and sponsored legislation that expanded Medicaid coverage for Pap smears. CARDISS sponsored legislation that established a permanent Office on Minority Health at NIH, and is the author of several laws addressing

child abuse prevention and child safety.

CARDISS has been particularly active in fighting for gender equity in college athletics. Her advocacy of title IX led to her induction into the Women and Girls' Sports Hall of Fame in 1994. CARDISS' leadership on these issues has been instrumental, and she will be missed.

BARBARA VUCANOVICH has served in this body for seven terms, and is the first woman elected to a Federal office from Nevada and the first Nevadan to serve in a leadership position in the House; she was elected secretary of the Republican Conference earlier this year. She is the only Republican woman on the Appropriations Committee and she is the second woman in history to become an appropriations subcommittee chair.

BARBARA has made many contributions to equity in women's health research. As a breast cancer survivor, BARBARA has brought her own experience to the fight against breast cancer. In her work on the Appropriations Committee, she has been a champion of breast cancer research, both at the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense. She has been a vocal advocate for regular and affordable mammograms and is the sponsor of legislation to provide annual mammograms for older women under Medicare and Medicaid. BARBARA's efforts on behalf of women and families will be missed, and I know that she will continue her work for breast cancer prevention and research after she leaves Congress.

JAN MEYERS was first elected to the House in 1984, and is currently the Chair of the House Small Business Committee, the first Republican woman since 1954 to chair a House committee. Her expertise on small business issues has been invaluable, and she chairs the Women's Caucus Task Force on Entrepreneurship and Economic Equity. JAN has worked very hard to restore the home office deduction and she has focused on promoting tax incentives and regulatory relief for small businesses. She has also worked to expand access to capital for small businesses.

JAN has been a consistent and strong supporter of the rights of women, particularly the reproductive rights of women here in this country and abroad. She has served on the International Relations Committee, where she has pursued her commitment to raising the status of women in developing countries. Last year, JAN sponsored amendments to both the foreign aid authorization and appropriations bills to protect family planning funding so that women and their families can take control of decisions relating to the size of their families and the spacing of their children. I am saddened to see JAN go, and her strong support of women and families will be sorely missed.

BARBARA ROSE COLLINS was elected to Congress in 1990; she was the first

African-American woman elected to the U.S. Congress from the State of Michigan. I have served with her on the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, where she is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Postal Service. During the 103d Congress, BARBARA-ROSE served as the Chair of the Subcommittee on Postal Operations. During her service in Congress, BARBARA-ROSE sponsored legislation to combat stalking and to increase breast cancer research. She also chaired the Congressional Caucus on Children, Youth, and Families in the 103d Congress. I know she will continue her work on behalf of women and families after she leaves this body.

BLANCHE LAMBERT LINCOLN became the first woman to represent the First District of Arkansas when she was elected in 1992. BLANCHE serves on the Commerce Committee, and helped form The Coalition, a group of conservative House Democrats who have sponsored a number of important legislative initiatives. The Coalition has worked with the Tuesday Group, a group of moderate Republicans, to which I belong, and I believe our groups have contributed a great deal to the compromises developed on a number of issues in this Congress. BLANCHE has also done a great deal to enhance rural development in her district. I congratulate her on the birth of her twin boys this summer, and I am sure that her departure from public service is only a temporary one?

ENID GREENE was elected in 1994, and was the first Republican freshman to be appointed to the House Rules Committee in 80 years. She serves on the Congressional Family Caucus, the House Small Business Survival Caucus, and the Executive Committee of the Republican Congressional Committee. ENID has been a strong advocate for lobbying and budget reform. She also has the distinction of being the first Republican Member of Congress to give birth while in office. I wish her well in the future.

Mr. Speaker, the departure of these many women Members is a great loss for this body. I will be working with these distinguished Members and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure that more women are assigned to important committee positions and that more women run for leadership posts in both parties. I salute these outstanding women members of Congress, and I look forward to continuing to work with them after they leave the House.

Mr. Speaker, I believe very firmly that every time a woman is elevated, all women are elevated, and society is richer for it.

RETIRING WOMEN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.