

for whom I have the most enormous respect and affection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I renew my request for unanimous consent.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL] reserves the right to object.

Mr. DINGELL. Simply to continue to have this very helpful colloquy with my good friend from Florida.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. It might be helpful to the gentleman from Michigan, but it is not to me.

Mr. DINGELL. Well, I apologize because it is my intent to be helpful in every particular to my good friend from Florida.

I am trying to understand. This is a bill that was reported out of the committee?

Mr. BILIRAKIS. The bill was marked up, I believe last week, out of committee.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, if I could continue on my reservation of objection, is this the bill that was the amendment, that is exactly the same as the amendment? This is a different bill? Oh.

Well, I will not object, and I gather, then, Mr. Speaker, that we are proceeding under the suspension rules and I will be immensely cooperative.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. And the Chair thanks the gentleman. The gentleman from Michigan withdraws his reservation of objection.

Without objection, the Clerk will report the title of the bill.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of H.R. 3632 is as follows:

H.R. 3632

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

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR ANNUAL RESIDENT REVIEW FOR MENTALLY ILL AND MENTALLY RETARDED NURSING FACILITY RESIDENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1919(e)(7) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r(e)(7)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by striking "ANNUAL" in the heading, and

(B) by striking clause (iii); and

(2) in subparagraph (D)(i), by striking "ANNUAL" in the heading.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR REVIEW IN CASE OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN PHYSICAL OR MENTAL CONDITION OF MENTALLY ILL OR MENTALLY RETARDED NURSING FACILITY RESIDENTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR NOTIFICATION OF STATE AUTHORITY.—Section 1919(b)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r(b)(3)(E)) is amended by adding at the end the following: "In addition, a nursing facility shall notify the State mental health authority or State mental retardation or developmental disability authority, as applicable, promptly after a significant change in the physical or mental condition of a resi-

dent who is mentally ill or mentally retarded."

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR REVIEW.—Section 1919(e)(7)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r(e)(7)(B)), as amended by section 1(a)(1), is amended by inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

"(iii) REVIEW REQUIRED UPON CHANGE IN RESIDENT'S CONDITION.—A review and determination under clause (i) or (ii) must be conducted promptly after a nursing facility has notified the State mental health authority or State mental retardation or developmental disability authority, as applicable, under subsection (b)(3)(E) with respect to a mentally ill or mentally retarded resident, that there has been a significant change in the resident's physical or mental condition."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to changes in physical or mental condition occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS] and the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS].

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3632 has received strong bipartisan support and will correct a problem with the current implementation of the nursing home quality assurance standards. Let me say that Congressman EHRlich, the sponsor of the bill, deserves special recognition for his efforts in moving this bill.

One of the requirements of the act was annual resident assessment for all Medicaid nursing home residents. The underlying statute also has as a requirement that for each resident of a nursing facility who is mentally ill or mentally retarded, an additional evaluation be completed. These additional reviews have proved to be costly and unnecessary. The Commerce Committee, the States, and the administration have come to the conclusion that this additional annual review is unnecessary.

This bill repeals this requirement for an additional assessment for the mentally ill and the mentally retarded. It would require, as an alternative, that additional assessments only occur when there is a significant change in the resident's physical or mental condition.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

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

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill. I want to express my respect and affection for my good friend from Florida. We are not always able to keep track of the way these matters move around here, and so I always out of great affection, some respect of the very high character and desire to work with my Republican col-

leagues, I always ask questions to try to find out what it is we are doing here during these closing days.

I would observe parenthetically that we just checked with the staff of the gentleman from California [Mr. WAXMAN], and they have not heard a word about this bill. So I hope the gentleman from Florida will excuse my inability to respond as speedily and as sharply and crisply as I might have liked to have done.

In any event, the bill is a good bill and we support this excellent legislation.

□ 1415

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. EHRlich], the sponsor of the bill.

Mr. EHRlich. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, just briefly, I want to thank everyone involved with this bill, particularly the gentleman from California [Mr. WAXMAN], and I would also point out that this is a Corrections Day bill. As you know, the Speaker came up with the Corrections Day process in order to facilitate the elimination of regulations that simply do not make sense and that cost a lot of money. That is the very purpose of the corrections day process.

I also congratulate the Speaker for implementing this process, and I believe this bill is probably the best example I can think of as to the way the Corrections Day process was supposed to work and actually does work. It has been a great honor for me to be a part of the process.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, we do not have any further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3632.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3632.

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

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House

stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1701

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. BURTON of Indiana] at 5 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment bills and a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1514. An act to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance safety, training, research and development, and safety education in the propane gas industry for the benefit of propane consumers and the public, and for other purposes;

H.R. 1823. An act to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow for prepayment of repayment contracts between the United States and the Central Utah Water Conservancy District dated December 28, 1965, and November 26, 1985, and for other purposes;

H.R. 2967. An act to extend the authorization of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3660. An act to make amendments to the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3871. An act to waive temporarily the Medicaid enrollment composition rule for certain health maintenance organizations;

H.R. 3973. An act to provide for a study of the recommendations of the Joint Federal-State Commission on Policies and Programs Affecting Alaska Natives;

H.R. 4138. An act to authorize the hydrogen research, development, and demonstration programs of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes;

H.R. 4168. An act to amend the Helium Act to authorize the Secretary to enter into agreements with private parties for the recovery and disposal of helium on Federal lands, and for other purposes; and

H. Con. Res. 207. Concurrent resolution approving certain regulations to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management relations with respect to covered employees, other than employees of the House of Representatives and employees of the Senate, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2779. An act to provide for appropriate implementation of the Metric Conversion Act of 1975 in Federal construction projects, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 3118. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform eligibility for health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the follow-

ing title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2130. An act to extend certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF LEGISLATION TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER SUSPENSION OF THE RULES TODAY

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 525, the following suspensions are expected to be considered today: H.R. 3005, SEC conference report, and S. 2003, armored car.

WAIVING ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO ANY BILL OR JOINT RESOLUTION OF 104TH CONGRESS MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration in the House of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 197) waiving certain enrollment requirements with respect to any bill or joint resolution of the One Hundred Fourth Congress making general or continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1997.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the joint resolution, as follows:

H.J. RES. 197

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT FOR PARCHMENT PRINTING.

(a) WAIVER.—The provisions of sections 106 and 107 of title 1, United States Code, are waived with respect to the printing (on parchment or otherwise) of the enrollment of any appropriation measure of the One Hundred Fourth Congress presented to the President after the enactment of this joint resolution.

(b) CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT BY COMMITTEE ON HOUSE OVERSIGHT.—The enrollment of any such measure shall be in such form as the Committee on House Oversight of the House of Representatives certifies to be a true enrollment.

SEC. 2. APPROPRIATION MEASURE DEFINED.

For purposes of this joint resolution, the term "appropriation measure" means a bill or joint resolution that includes provisions making general or continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997.

The joint resolution 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.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS IN PREPARATION FOR ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 546 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 546

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House a joint resolution waiving certain enrollment requirements with respect to any bill or joint resolution of the One Hundred Fourth Congress making general or continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1997. The joint resolution shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to commit.

SEC. 2. Upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House a joint resolution appointing the day for the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Fifth Congress and the day for counting in Congress of the electoral votes for President and Vice President cast in December 1996. The joint resolution shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to commit.

SEC. 3. A resolution providing that any organizational caucus or conference in the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Fifth Congress may begin on or after November 15, 1996, is hereby adopted.

SEC. 4. A resolution providing for the printing of a revised edition of the Rules and Manual of the House of Representatives for the One Hundred Fifth Congress as a House document, and for the printing and binding of three thousand additional copies for the use of the House, of which nine hundred copies shall be bound in leather with thumb index and delivered as may be directed by the Parliamentarian of the House, is hereby adopted.

SEC. 5. Each committee of the House that is authorized to conduct investigations may file reports to the House thereon following the adjournment of the second session sine die.

SEC. 6. Reports on the activities of committees of the House in the One Hundred Fourth Congress pursuant to clause 1(d) of rule XI may be printed as reports of the One Hundred Fourth Congress.

SEC. 7. The Speaker and the minority leader may accept resignations and make appointments to commissions, boards, and committees following the adjournment of the second session sine die as authorized by law or by the House.

SEC. 8. The chairman and ranking minority member of each standing committee and subcommittee may extend their remarks in the Congressional Record and include a summary of the work of their committee or subcommittee.

SEC. 9. All Members may extend their remarks in the Congressional Record on any matter occurring prior to the adjournment of the second session sine die.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. PRYCE] is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.