

after consultation with the minority leader of the House and the minority leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and Senate, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the concurrent resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 207, noes 199, answered not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 29]

AYES—207

Allard	Franks (NJ)	Mica
Archer	Frelinghuysen	Miller (FL)
Army	Frisa	Molinari
Bachus	Funderburk	Moorhead
Baker (CA)	Galleghy	Morella
Ballenger	Gekas	Myers
Barr	Gilchrest	Myrick
Bartlett	Gillmor	Nethercutt
Barton	Gilman	Neumann
Bass	Gingrich	Ney
Bateman	Goodlatte	Norwood
Bilbray	Goodling	Oxley
Bilirakis	Goss	Parker
Bliley	Graham	Paxon
Blute	Gunderson	Petri
Boehlert	Gutknecht	Pombo
Boehner	Hancock	Porter
Bonilla	Hansen	Portman
Bono	Hastert	Pryce
Bryant (TN)	Hastings (WA)	Quillen
Bunning	Hayes	Quinn
Burr	Hayworth	Regula
Burton	Hefley	Riggs
Buyer	Heineman	Rogers
Calvert	Herger	Rohrabacher
Camp	Hilleary	Roth
Campbell	Hobson	Royce
Canady	Hoekstra	Salmon
Castle	Hoke	Sanford
Chabot	Horn	Saxton
Chambliss	Hostettler	Scarborough
Chenoweth	Houghton	Schaefer
Chrysler	Hunter	Schiff
Clinger	Hutchinson	Sensenbrenner
Coble	Hyde	Shadegg
Coburn	Inglis	Shays
Collins (GA)	Istook	Shuster
Cooley	Johnson, Sam	Skeen
Cox	Jones	Smith (MI)
Crapo	Kasich	Smith (NJ)
Cremeans	Kelly	Smith (TX)
Cubin	Kim	Smith (WA)
Cunningham	King	Solomon
Davis	Kingston	Souder
Deal	Klug	Spence
DeLay	Knollenberg	Stearns
Diaz-Balart	LaHood	Stockman
Dickey	Largent	Stump
Doolittle	LaTourette	Talent
Dornan	Laughlin	Tate
Dreier	Lazio	Tauzin
Duncan	Lewis (KY)	Taylor (NC)
Dunn	Linder	Thomas
Ehlers	Livingston	Tiahrt
Ehrlich	LoBiondo	Torkildsen
Emerson	Longley	Upton
English	Lucas	Vucanovich
Ensign	Manzullo	Waldholtz
Everett	Martini	Walker
Ewing	McCollum	Walsh
Fields (TX)	McCrery	Wamp
Flanagan	McDade	Watts (OK)
Foley	McHugh	Weldon (FL)
Forbes	McInnis	Weldon (PA)
Fowler	McIntosh	Weller
Fox	McKeon	White
Franks (CT)	Metcalfe	Whitfield

Wicker
Wolf

Young (AK)
Young (FL)

Zeliff
Zimmer

NOES—199

Abercrombie	Geren	Obey
Ackerman	Gonzalez	Oliver
Andrews	Gordon	Ortiz
Baesler	Gutierrez	Orton
Baldacci	Hall (OH)	Owens
Barcia	Hall (TX)	Pallone
Barrett (NE)	Hamilton	Pastor
Barrett (WI)	Harman	Payne (NJ)
Beilenson	Hastings (FL)	Payne (VA)
Bentsen	Hefner	Pelosi
Bereuter	Hilliard	Peterson (MN)
Berman	Hinchey	Pickett
Bishop	Holden	Pomeroy
Boniior	Hoyer	Poshard
Borski	Jackson (IL)	Rahall
Boucher	Jackson-Lee	Ramstad
Brewster	(TX)	Rangel
Browder	Jacobs	Reed
Brown (CA)	Jefferson	Richardson
Brown (FL)	Johnson (CT)	Rivers
Brown (OH)	Johnson (SD)	Roberts
Brownback	Johnson, E. B.	Roemer
Bunn	Johnston	Roukema
Cardin	Kanjorski	Roybal-Allard
Christensen	Kaptur	Rush
Clay	Kennedy (MA)	Sabo
Clayton	Kennedy (RI)	Sawyer
Clement	Kennelly	Schroeder
Clyburn	Kildee	Schumer
Coleman	Klecza	Scott
Collins (IL)	Klink	Serrano
Collins (MI)	LaFalce	Sisisky
Combest	Lantos	Skaggs
Condit	Latham	Skelton
Conyers	Leach	Slaughter
Costello	Levin	Spratt
Coyne	Lewis (GA)	Stark
Cramer	Lightfoot	Stenholm
Danner	Lincoln	Stokes
de la Garza	Lipinski	Studds
DeFazio	Lofgren	Stupak
DeLauro	Lowey	Tanner
Dellums	Luther	Taylor (MS)
Deutsch	Maloney	Tejeda
Dicks	Markey	Thompson
Dixon	Mascara	Thornberry
Doggett	Matsui	Thornton
Dooley	McCarthy	Thurman
Doyle	McDermott	Torres
Durbin	McHale	Torricelli
Edwards	McKinney	Towns
Engel	McNulty	Traficant
Eshoo	Meehan	Velazquez
Evans	Meek	Vento
Farr	Menendez	Visclosky
Fattah	Miller (CA)	Volkmer
Fazio	Minge	Ward
Fields (LA)	Mink	Waters
Flake	Moakley	Watt (NC)
Foglietta	Mollohan	Waxman
Ford	Montgomery	Williams
Frank (MA)	Moran	Wise
Frost	Murtha	Woolsey
Furse	Nadler	Wyden
Ganske	Neal	Wynn
Gejdenson	Nussle	Yates
Gephardt	Oberstar	

NOT VOTING—28

Baker (LA)	Gibbons	Peterson (FL)
Becerra	Green	Radanovich
Bevill	Greenwood	Ros-Lehtinen
Bryant (TX)	Kolbe	Rose
Callahan	Lewis (CA)	Sanders
Chapman	Manton	Seastrand
Crane	Martinez	Shaw
Dingell	Meyers	Wilson
Fawell	Mfume	
Filner	Packard	

□ 1948

Mr. CHRISTENSEN and Mr. NUSSLE changed their vote from "aye" to no."

So the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY GUARANTEE ACT

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 355, I call up the bill (H.R. 2924) to guarantee the timely payment of Social Security benefits in March 1996, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text at H.R. 2924 is as follows:

H.R. 2924

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

SECTION 1. TIMELY PAYMENT OF MARCH 1996 SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS GUARANTEED.

(a) FINDINGS.—

(1) Congress intends to pass an increase in the public debt limit before March 1, 1996.

(2) In the interim, social security beneficiaries should be assured that social security benefits will be paid on a timely basis in March 1996.

(b) GUARANTEE OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT PAYMENTS.—In addition to any other authority provided by law, the Secretary of the Treasury may issue under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, obligations of the United States before March 1, 1996, in an amount equal to the monthly insurance benefits payable under title II of the Social Security Act in March 1996.

(c) OBLIGATIONS EXEMPT FROM PUBLIC DEBT LIMIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Obligations issued under subsection (b) shall not be taken into account in applying the limitation in section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(2) TERMINATION OF EXEMPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall cease to apply on the earlier of—

(A) the date of the enactment of the first increase in the limitation in section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, after the date of the enactment of this Act, or

(B) March 15, 1996.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALKER). Pursuant to House Resolution 355, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER] will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER].

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2924, the bill now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the debate we are entering into today really should not have to occur at all.

Our Nation is a great nation. We are financially sound, and our credit is secure. We always have, and we always will pay our bills on time and in full.

Regardless of the occasional wrangling that goes on between the White House and the Congress, we have always found a way to protect the full faith and credit of the United States of

America, and this year will be no different. Republicans in Congress have pledged that we will take action to raise the debt limit prior to March 1. We will fulfill our responsibility, and I am confident that the President will fulfill his by signing the legislation that will come before the end of this month.

That is why I deeply regret President Clinton and his advisers have fanned the political flames of fear by raising the specter that Social Security checks will not go out as a result of the current debate.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us is designed to protect America's seniors from the scare campaign President Clinton and his allies have been waging for political purposes. The Social Security checks will go out, and everyone knows it. The President is wrong to scare senior citizens, and he should not use them as pawns in this budget debate.

But in an effort to reassure our seniors, this bill will give them a guarantee that they will get their checks no matter what President Clinton does. With the passage of this bill, President Clinton has no excuse not to send out Social Security checks. Seniors have worked all of their lives and have already paid for their Social Security checks. The Social Security fund contains their money. Seniors deserve peace of mind, and this bill gives it to them.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, there is no need to debate this bill. I do not see where there is any need to debate what is going on here when the whole world knows exactly what it is.

This has nothing to do with protecting the full faith and credit of the United States of America.

The majority party has seen fit to select who they want to protect, so this week it is the Social Security beneficiaries. Who knows, three weeks from now it may be the widows, those that are left behind from our veterans or those that are disabled. Who knows how they want to issue their compassion?

The only question we should have to vote on is whether this Congress is prepared to pass a clean long-term debt ceiling bill. The majority, without consultation, without compromise, have decided themselves that the only thing they want to do is to extend it for a couple of weeks to protect the Social Security beneficiaries. I hope, Mr. Speaker, and Members of the other side, that over this so-called break when we should be here working that you might decide that you want to extend that compassion to each and every American who deserves not only their check but deserves to know that the full faith and credit of the United States of America will stand tall, notwithstanding the fact that there is a

serious disagreement between both sides of the aisle on what our policy should be. This should be clean.

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

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, with the understanding and agreement that we have had with the minority, I have no further speakers, but I will close and will yield myself the balance of my time with that understanding.

Mr. Speaker, the individuals that the gentleman from New York just referred to will also have their checks protected by this legislation. Let that be understood.

But this debate is really not about Social Security, and it is not about default. It is about our Nation's debt. Our debt stands at over \$4.9 trillion and growing.

For a family of 4, their share is \$72,000, increasing each week by \$89, each month by \$383, and each year by \$4,594. Sometime, someday, someone has to pay this debt, and that someone is today's younger workers, their children, and their children's children.

What do the Democrats want to do with this debt problem? They want us to respond by sending more debt to our children. It is business as usual. They want us to pass a so-called clean debt limit.

Most of them do not support a balanced budget, and they want to borrow our Nation's way into deeper debt and eventual bankruptcy and default, and that is why we believe it is highly appropriate to attach to the 1995 debt limit bill legislation that puts a down payment on deficit reduction and tax relief.

Their strategy is borrow, default and blame Republicans. Democrats used the 1993 debt limit bill to pass the largest tax increase in history, an increase even President Clinton admitted was "too much." The Democrats think it is OK to pass tax hikes on debt limit bills, but they oppose reducing spending, shrinking the Federal Government, and leaving more money in the taxpayers' pockets as a part of the 1995 debt limit bill.

□ 2000

Republicans believe that there is nothing clean, Mr. Speaker, about leaving more debt to our children. It is wrong to give our children more debt, and if the President's State of the Union speech was more than idle words, he will agree with our plan to put a reasonable and responsible down payment on the deficit, on the debt limit bill later this month.

We have kept in this House of Representatives every promise we made to the American people, and today we can assure them we will pass a debt limit bill before the first of March. We need to pass this bill now to assure and guarantee to senior citizens that their Social Security checks will go out.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker. I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2924, the Social Security Guarantee Act. As Congress continues to ne-

gotiate with the administration on how to balance the budget if it is imperative that we ensure that Social Security benefits will be paid on time.

It is not right that our Nation's seniors be held hostage to any partisan bickering and the failure of the administration to come forward with a credible, workable balanced budget. Instead, Congress should be doing all it can to ensure that our seniors receive their Social Security checks on time. As many of us know, their Social Security check is all some of our seniors have to help pay for their food and shelter.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to fully support this important measure.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of Treasury has repeatedly warned of the impending collapse of our financial system if Republicans did not give up on their quest for a balanced budget and simply increase the debt limit. His lack of credibility is now established.

His recent statements about not having enough cash to make retirement payments on March 1 is again designed to put political pressure on the Congress in hopes that Congress will abandon the balanced budget and allow the addition of more debt to the trillions that our children will be responsible for.

This bill will ensure that Social Security payments must be made on March 1. It does not add to the debt, but it does allow Treasury to overcome a timing problem that they have created by their claim that they cannot manage the cash of this country.

Under normal circumstances Treasury would sell bonds a few days before benefit payments are due with a settlement date the same as the benefit payment date. Then the trust fund is disinvested and the debt limit has returned to what it was. Because we are at the debt limit Treasury cannot use this normal procedure.

Because the Social Security Trust is void of any cash, Treasury must sell securities to make benefit payments that come due. This bill will allow these securities to be sold outside the debt limit, then as the benefit payments are met the trust fund securities will be redeemed. The securities which were sold will then come under the debt limit, so by March 15, when all benefit checks have been paid, the debt will be the same as it was before.

Congress makes the decision about what the pattern of debt will be in the future. The current Congress, however, no longer directly controls the amount of spending that will occur in the near future. This is because of the growth of entitlement programs. In 1955, nearly nine-tenths of the Federal budget was discretionary programs. Today only about one-third of the budget is discretionary. Congress can only alter the spending pattern to match its wishes with regard to the time path of debt by amending statutes which authorize the entitlement programs. Although it is true through budget reconciliation Congress does authorize mandatory spending, and can thus make changes, Congress recently offered such legislation under the guise of the Balanced Budget Act of 1995. This legislation was vetoed by the President. Unlike an appropriations bill, which if vetoed results in no spending and no additional debt, a veto of a reconciliation bill, or changes in mandatory spending through

new authorizing legislation, results in continued spending under the old programs. The results is that, in the case of mandatory spending, Congress cannot affect a change and alter the time path of debt without the consent of the President, unless it has a two-thirds majority to override the President's veto.

Due to the inextricable link between the entitlement programs and the future debt of the Federal Government, there is an inextricable link between the budget bills and the debt limit. To argue that the debt limit is not to be tied into the budget process is to miss this vital point. Congress's last hold on its authority to borrow money under article 1, section 8 is the debt limit. Because the amount of debt that will be needed in the future is directly related to the amount of spending that will occur, the authority to borrow under section 8 is tied directly to Congress' authority to spend under article 1, section 9. It is quite appropriate to link budget bills to debt limit increases.

Historically, this has been the case. Indeed, with the decrease in the share of the budget that is accounted for by discretionary spending, the linkage has become ever closer. In 1993, H.R. 2264 raised the debt limit in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, which included a tax increase of \$250 billion.

In 1990, the debt limit increase incorporated the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1990, which also included large tax increases.

In 1987 and 1985 the debt limit increases were included in the debate over Gramm-Rudman I and II. In recent years, a clean permanent increase in the debt limit simply doesn't occur.

Thomas Jefferson: I place economy among the first and most important of Republican virtues, and public debt as the greatest of dangers to be feared.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to strongly urge my colleagues to support the passage of a clean debt limit extension bill. The American people must clearly understand why this is so critical. If the Congress fails to pass the measure before the first of March, the Government will not be able to pay its bills.

For the first time in history, Social Security and Veterans' benefits checks could bounce, citizens' tax refunds could be withheld, those doing business with the Government could not be paid including hospitals, and mortgage payments could increase.

With so much work left to be done on critical pieces of legislation—especially the debt limit, I strongly urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle not to recess. This irresponsible approach to the management of the Government must end. The Republicans' politically contrived shutdown of the Federal Government has already cost the country over \$1.5 billion. This did not reduce the deficit, it increased the deficit. Such blatant waste must not be tolerated.

The GOP majority in Congress is continuing to recklessly and needlessly place the country's economic future and seniors', veterans', and children's quality of life and standard of living at risk in order to give a tax break to the rich.

This hostile takeover must end. We would not tolerate such threats to our economy, our national security, and our children's future from our foreign colleagues, and the American people must not tolerate political tactics that could lead to economic ruin from our colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, the House must not adjourn. We are 4 months into the 1996 fiscal year, and it is now time to start action on the fiscal year 1997 budget, yet action is still pending on 5 of the 13 fiscal year 1996 appropriations bills.

I strongly urge my colleagues to stop holding the American people hostage, put an end to operating the Government on piecemeal continuing resolutions—pass a clean debt limit extension bill, and complete action on the remaining fiscal year 1996 appropriations bills.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, we choose not to respond, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALKER). Pursuant to House Resolution 355, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the aye appeared to have it.

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 396, nays 0, not voting 37, as follows:

[Roll No. 30]

YEAS—396

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allard
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker (CA)
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Beilenson
Bentsen
Bereuter
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Bliley
Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boucher
Brewster
Browder
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Brownback
Bryant (TN)

Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Buyer
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Chrysler
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clinger
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Coleman
Collins (GA)
Collins (IL)
Collins (MI)
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooley
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crapo
Creameans
Cubin
Cunningham
Danner
Davis
de la Garza

Deal
DeFazio
DeLauro
DeLay
Dellums
Deutsch
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Dornan
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Durbin
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Fawell
Fazio
Fields (LA)
Fields (TX)
Flake
Flanagan
Foglietta
Foley
Forbes
Ford

Fowler
Fox
Frank (MA)
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frisa
Frost
Funderburk
Furse
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Geren
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Greenwood
Gunderson
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hancock
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Heineman
Herger
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hobson
Hoke
Holden
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnston, Sam
Johnston
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kim
King
Kingston
Klecza
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
LaHood
Lantos
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Levin

Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Lincoln
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Longley
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Martini
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McDermott
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meek
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Miller (CA)
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Molinari
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moorhead
Moran
Morella
Murtha
Myers
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Parker
Pastor
Paxon
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pickett
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Poshards
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Reed
Regula
Richardson
Riggs
Rivers
Roberts
Roemer
Rogers
Rohrabacher

Roth
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Sabo
Salmon
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schiff
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Shadegg
Shays
Shuster
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skeltton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Stockman
Stokes
Studds
Stump
Stupak
Talent
Tanner
Tate
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Tejeda
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thornton
Thurman
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Torres
Torricelli
Towns
Traficant
Upton
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Volkmer
Vucanovich
Waldholtz
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Ward
Waters
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Williams
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wyden
Wynn
Yates
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Zeliff
Zimmer

NOT VOTING—37

Baker (LA)
Becerra
Berman
Bevill
Bryant (TX)

Burton
Callahan
Calvert
Chapman
Diaz-Balart

Ewing
Filner
Gallegly
Gibbons
Green

Hoekstra
Jacobs
Kolbe
LaFalce
Lewis (CA)
Manton
Martinez
Meehan

Meyers
Mfume
Moakley
Packard
Peterson (FL)
Radanovich
Ros-Lehtinen
Rose

Sanders
Sanford
Seastrand
Shaw
Solomon
Wilson

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

PETE HOEKSTRA,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution, House Resolution 357, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

H. RES. 357

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and he is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Budget: Mr. Neumann of Wisconsin.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DESIGNATION OF HON. CONSTANCE

A. MORELLA TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH FEBRUARY 26, 1996

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker of the House:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 1, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable Constance A. Morella to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through Monday, February 26, 1996.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the designation is agreed to. There was no objection.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

WASHINGTON, DC,

January 19, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Attached herewith is a copy of my letter of resignation as presented to the Governor of the State of Maryland, the Honorable Parris N. Glendening.

Effective February 18, 1996, I am resigning as Representative to the United States Congress from Maryland's 7th Congressional District.

Sincerely,

KWEISI MFUME,
Member of Congress.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2281

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be withdrawn as a cosponsor of H.R. 2281.

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

There was no objection.

AWARDING CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO RUTH AND BILLY GRAHAM

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2657) to award a congressional gold medal to Ruth and Billy Graham, with the Senate amendment thereto and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment, as follows:

Page 4, strike out lines 8 through 19.

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and of course I will not object to this particular bill, but I yield to the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE] so that he might explain the Senate changes in H.R. 2657.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, Members may recall that in the past week or two, we passed H.R. 2657, which was a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Ruth and Billy Graham. Members on both sides of the aisle, with the exception of one, voted for this. It was supported almost unanimously in this body, 403 "yes" votes at that time, and there was no known opposition.

Mr. Speaker, tonight the Senate amended H.R. 2657 deleting section 5, and it is a small change to the legislation. But because it takes some time to get this ready, they wanted to run this through tonight to get it done. Mr. Speaker, we have no objection to the change and wanted to put it before the House tonight.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I, of course, concur with the changes of the Senate. I am proud to share with the gentleman from Delaware [Mr. CASTLE] in our support of this particular legislation and for Reverend and Mrs. Billy Graham.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our colleagues to congratulate them for putting themselves in the position to be worthy of having a medal of honor named after them.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GRANTING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE PRIVILEGE TO REVISE AND EXTEND REMARKS IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON LEGISLATIVE DAY OF TODAY

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that for the legislative day of today, all Members be permitted to extend their remarks and to

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Mrs. CLAYTON changed her vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 30, my wife Jenny is about to have our third child and the doctor says if I don't leave now I will be missing the big event. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent during the votes on default legislation. If I had been present, I would have voted "nay" on the motions to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair with regards to the resolutions offered by Mr. GEPHARDT (rollcall No. 26) and Ms. JACKSON-LEE (rollcall No. 27), I would have voted "nay" on the ordering of the previous question on House Resolution 355 (rollcall No. 28). I would have voted "nay" on H. Con. Res. 141 (rollcall No. 29). I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 2924 (rollcall No. 30).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, due to a hearing on future energy policy by the House Resources Committee, which I served as chairman, I was unavoidably detained, and thus unable to vote for final passage of H.R. 2924.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the Social Security Guarantee Act—H.R. 2924. I feel it is absolutely imperative to express Congress' intention to pass legislation increasing the public debt limit before March 1, 1996, and ensure that March Social Security benefits will be paid on time.

Senior citizens should not be held hostage on account of the budget deliberations we are holding today. I will continue to fight for a balanced budget by the turn of the century, and at the same time, protect America's obligations to its seniors.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER AND ELECTION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. METCALF) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on the Budget:

FEBRUARY 1, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to your letter dated Jan. 29, 1996, I hereby resign as a member of the House Committee on the Budget, effective immediately.