

end of the subsection and inserting "total of 36,400,000 acres during the 1986 through 2002 calendar years (including contracts extended by the Secretary pursuant to section 1437(c) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-624; 16 U.S.C. 3831 note))."

(c) **OPTIONAL CONTRACT TERMINATION BY PRODUCERS.**—Section 1235 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3835) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(e) **TERMINATION BY OWNER OR OPERATOR.**—

"(1) **EARLY TERMINATION AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary shall allow an owner or operator of land that, on the date of the enactment of the Agricultural Market Transition Act, is covered by a contract that was entered into under this subchapter at least five years before that date to terminate the contract with respect to all or a portion of the covered land. The owner or operator shall provide the Secretary with reasonable notice of the termination request.

"(2) **CERTAIN LANDS EXCEPTED.**—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the following lands shall not be subject to an early termination of a contract under this subsection:

"(A) Filterstrips, waterways, strips adjacent to riparian areas, windbreaks, and shelterbelts.

"(B) Land with an erodibility index of more than 15.

"(C) Other lands of high environmental value, as determined by the Secretary.

"(3) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The contract termination shall take effect 60 days after the date on which the owner or operator submits the notice under paragraph (1).

"(4) **PRORATED RENTAL PAYMENT.**—If a contract entered into under this subchapter is terminated under this subsection before the end of the fiscal year for which a rental payment is due, the Secretary shall provide a prorated rental payment covering the portion of the fiscal year during which the contract was in effect.

"(5) **RENEWED ENROLLMENT.**—The termination of a contract entered into under this subchapter shall not affect the ability of the owner or operator who requested the termination to submit a subsequent bid to enroll the land that was subject to the contract into the conservation reserve.

"(6) **CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS.**—If land that was subject to a contract is returned to production of an agricultural commodity, the conservation requirements under subtitles B and C shall apply to the use of the land to the extent that the requirements are similar to those requirements imposed on other similar lands in the area, except that the requirements may not be more onerous than the requirements imposed on other lands."

(d) **USE OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS.**—Section 1231 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) **USE OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS FROM CONTRACT TERMINATIONS.**—If a contract entered into under this section is terminated, voluntarily or otherwise, before the expiration date specified in the contract, the Secretary may use funds, already available to the Secretary to cover payments under the contract, but unexpended as a result of the contract termination, to enroll other eligible lands in the conservation reserve established under this subchapter."

(e) **FAIR MARKET VALUE RENTAL RATES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1234(c) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) In the case of a contract covering land which has not been previously enrolled in

the conservation reserve, annual rental payments under the contract may not exceed the average fair market rental rate for comparable lands in the county in which the lands are located. This paragraph shall not apply to the extension of an existing contract."

(2) **APPLICATION OF AMENDMENT.**—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to contracts for the enrollment of lands in the conservation reserve program under section 1231 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831) entered into after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) **ENROLLMENTS IN 1997.**—Section 725 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104-37; 109 Stat. 332), is amended by striking the proviso relating to enrollment of new acres in 1997.

□ 2200

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Chairman, I want to inform Members that the House will go into session tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock in order to expedite consideration of the farm bill, and to accommodate Members there will be no 1-minute.

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) having assumed the chair, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2854) to modify the operation of certain agricultural programs, had come to no resolution thereon.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning.

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

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT PROCESS DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 994, SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the Rules Committee is planning to meet on Thursday, February 29 to grant a rule for H.R. 994, the Small Business Growth and Administrative Accountability Act, which the House is likely to consider during the week of March 4. The Rules Committee is contemplating an open rule for this legislation.

The Rules Committee may grant a rule which would make in order an amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Government Reform and Oversight Chairman CLINGER and Judiciary Chairman HYDE as original text for purposes of amendment.

The substitute amendment is expected to broaden the scope of the legislation. The Clinger-Hyde amendment

will be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Thursday, February 29, and copies of the amendment will be available in the majority offices of the Government Reform and Oversight Committee and the Judiciary Committee.

Members should draft their amendments to this substitute.

The Rules Committee is also contemplating a rule which would provide priority in recognition to those Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to being offered.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are properly drafted and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

MAKING IN ORDER SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2854, AGRICULTURAL MARKET TRANSITION ACT

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent during further consideration of H.R. 2854, pursuant to House Resolution 366, that I be permitted to offer the amendment at the desk in lieu of amendment number 15 printed in House Report 104-463.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will read the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

At the end of title V, page 139, after line 17, add the following section: Sense of the Congress regarding purchase of American-made equipment and products requirement regarding notice. Any purchase of American-made equipment and products in the case of any equipment or products that may be authorized to be purchased with financial assistance provided under this act or amendments made by this act, it is the sense of Congress that persons receiving such assistance should in expending the assistance purchase only American-made equipment and products.

B, the notice to recipients of assistance in providing financial assistance under this act or amendments made by this act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide to each recipient of the assistance a notice describing the statement made in subsection A by the Congress.

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

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 1561, AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS ACT OF 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1561) to consolidate the foreign affairs agencies of the United States; to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1996 and 1997; to responsibly reduce the authorizations of appropriations for United States foreign assistance programs for fiscal years 1996 and

1997, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference requested by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York? The Chair hears none and, without objection, appoints the following conferees: Messrs. GILMAN, GOODLING, HYDE, ROTH, BEREUTER, SMITH of New Jersey, BURTON of Indiana, MS. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Messrs. HAMILTON, GEJDENSON, LANTOS, TORRICELLI, BERMAN, and ACKERMAN.

There was no objection.

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:

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

[Mrs. MALONEY addressed the House. Her 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 Florida [Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN addressed the House. Her 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. RIGGS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

WE NEED TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY AND SAVINGS

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

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, a challenge is facing this country, and I think there is excellent news for our future, for families, for wages that give families a decent living, if we make some simple changes down here in Washington.

Washington cannot do everything, and eventually, you know, in this country we are going to have to

produce a good product that people around the world in this country want to buy, and we can sell it at a reasonable price.

Government can do some things to make sure that happens.

Think for a moment as you look at tax policies around the world and in the industrialized nations, and I see our chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means here. We in the United States penalize savings and investment more than any of those countries. If you look at what has happened the last decade, we see the United States trailing in savings. Out of every take-home dollar in the United States, we are saving about 4 cents. That compares with about 18 cents in Japan, up to 34 cents out of every take-home dollar saved in South Korea. So we are shy on savings.

Part of it is because we have tax policies that discourage savings, almost penalize savings.

If you look at the investment, the new investment in machinery and equipment over the last 10 years, again we see the United States investing less per worker than those other industrialized countries. So it is not surprising that the result is a lower, slower rate of increase in productivity.

Make no mistake, the United States is the most productive nation in the world, but our rate of increase in productivity is slipping over the last decade. We cannot afford that.

What is happening in this post-cold-war economy is that Eastern Europe, the Asian tigers, are doing everything they can to attract capital.

I was talking to some of the Wall Street financiers 3 weeks ago. They are saying with some of their portfolio funds they are now investing in other countries because they think they might be able to get a higher rate of return.

Look, in this next campaign we are going to be talking about new taxes, we are going to be talking should it be a flat tax, should it be some kind of a national income tax, should it be some kind of a value-added tax? All of those taxes are essentially the same in achieving the goals of encouraging savings and encouraging investment.

The country that attracts that investment and expands the capital in their country is going to be the country that ends up with a higher standard of living. We have got to do that.

Here are some of the things that we can do to increase the savings rate in this country:

We have got to reduce the negative savings that is caused by Government overspending. Government now borrows about 18 cents out of every dollar we spend. That means that if you look at all of the money that was lent out in the United States last year, the Federal Government borrowed almost 42 percent of all of the money lent out in the United States last year.

We remember our lessons in economics. The greater the demand, the higher the price. That is why Alan Greenspan

came to our Committee on the Budget and said, "If you guys can balance this budget, you are going to see interest rates drop between 1.5 and 2 percent." That means a tremendous difference in what happens to the economy, it makes a tremendous difference in reducing the price of everything we borrow money for, from cars to homes to college educations.

I would yield to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON].

Mr. KINGSTON. If the gentleman will yield, is it not true that on a 2½ interest rate reduction for a \$75,000 home over a 30-year period of time, the American consumers, the American homeowners, would save \$37,000?

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Is that not amazing? And I am going to give an example for some folks down in Hillsdale County, where the homes are a little less. If you had a \$50,000 home and you ended up having—you had a mortgage that lasted over 30 years, it would reduce the amount of money that those homeowners paid by \$30,000.

Think of what would happen if it was a business deciding to invest a half a million dollars in some new equipment or build new machinery. It would reduce the cost of that equipment and machinery, we would end up putting better tools in the hands of the greatest work force in the world; that is, the American work force; and we would see our productivity take off.

I mean, that is why Alan Greenspan followed it up saying, look, if you can do this and interest rates drop, you will see this economy growing like it has never grown before.

THE SHADOW OF CRIME OVER AMERICA

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

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, a long shadow is falling over America. Slowly the shadow is blotting out the sunny streets and parks where children play. It is blocking out the moonlight where couples walk. It is even blocking out the warm welcoming glow of our houses at night.

That shadow is crime, and after many years of thinking it could not fall on the quiet communities from which we have come, it has. The violence that trails gangs and drugs like a vicious dog drove homicides in my city of Omaha to an all time high in 1995. There were 41 killings last year in Omaha, 8 more than in 1994. Omaha's police made nearly 20 percent more juvenile arrests in 1995 than in 1994. And the shadow even claimed the life of one of our brave men in blue.

□ 2215

Many of our districts may have been free from the worst of crime for many years, but now we must turn and face the shadow, and drive it back.