

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York [Mrs. KELLY] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. KELLY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR H.R. 2202, IMMIGRATION IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST ACT

(Mr. GOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, March 8, the chairman of the Rules Committee, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], sent out a "Dear Colleague" letter to all Members of the House, committee offices, and leadership offices providing notice of the amendment process to be used on H.R. 2202, the Immigration in the National Interest Act.

This announcement is intended to serve as a reminder of that process. The Rules Committee is planning to meet Thursday, March 14, at 10:30 a.m. to grant a rule on the immigration bill. This rule may include a provision limiting amendments to those specified in the rule.

Any Member who desires to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies and a brief explanation of the amendment by noon on Wednesday, March 13, to the Rules Committee at room H-312 in the Capitol.

Amendments to the portions of the bill in the jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee should be drafted to the text of H.R. 2202 as reported by the Judiciary Committee.

Amendments to the portion of the bill in the Agriculture Committee jurisdiction, the guest worker program, should be drafted to the text of the Agriculture Committee reported amendment.

Both of these texts are in the Office of the Legislative Counsel.

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.

## ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to share a few names with you and hopefully our President: Adam Kopald, Bridgit Mennite, Liesl Himmelberger, Amy Ziegler, Emily Nytko, and Kellie Erzen.

These are just a few of the names that our President is planning to veto this Friday.

Those six young men and women are the top honor students at James O'Neill High School in Highland Falls, NY.

Their school district vitally depends on the Impact Aid Program. Last week this House stood up for these children and their school district by funding this program—despite the White House's attempts to zero it out.

If the President vetoes our measure, which adds an additional \$3.3 billion for education and environmental programs, he vetoes the education of those six students. It's that simple.

The President can talk all he wants about children, but the fact will remain that he abandoned them—not this House.

Mr. Speaker, my mother used to tell me that actions speak louder than words. So, I urge the President to hear the please of these children, and help us save the Impact Aid Program.

## TRIO OF TRADE EXPERTS RECOMMEND CONTINUATION OF MFN STATUS FOR CHINA

(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, China denies American products. China steals American videos and software. China tortures their own citizens, China imprisons their political opponents. China has slave labor camps. China has a 17-cent-an-hour labor wage. China still has slave labor camps. China sells nuclear technology and missiles to America's enemies, and China is now threatening to nuke Taiwan. After all this, American government trade experts say it is in the best interests of America to continue most-favored-nation trade status for China.

Unbelievable, Mr. Speaker, I say it has finally dawned on me. These American trade experts are actually Larry, Moe, and Curly, an they inhaled all the time.

Beam me up, Mr. Speaker. I yield back the balance of any jobs left over.

## WHITE HOUSE REQUESTS ADDITIONAL \$8 BILLION

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, wages are down and taxes are up. The middle class is slowly being squeezed by liberal economic policies put in place by the Clinton administration. Now we

hear that the White House has requested an additional \$8 billion for corporate welfare and social engineering programs.

This is basically a Clinton reelection pork package. What really rattles me about this request is that the Clinton administration wants \$10 million more for the National Endowment for the Arts. This is outrageous.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are tired of seeing their hard-earned tax dollars wasted on projects that go out of their way to offend traditional values. It is outrageous that Bill Clinton would ask for an additional \$10 million for this program in order to please the extreme liberal wing of the Democratic Party.

## CONGRESS SELLS OUT TO SPECIAL INTERESTS

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues continue to confuse the onset of spring with the continuation of Halloween. They continue to masquerade as the friend of working Americans but are still the defenders of the special interests.

They unveiled their new health care reform plan. They are loading down a bipartisan straightforward health care reform bill with lots of special interest goodies.

Who benefits from these provisions? Is it the working families struggling to pay health care bills? No, that is not who. Their proposal would provide a financial windfall for the Golden Rule Insurance Co., providers of over \$1 million in contributions to Republican political action committees.

This attempt to appease special interests is particularly disappointing because it wastes an opportunity to pass real bipartisan health care reform in this Congress. Sadly, when the gavel drops to open debate on this legislation, it will mark the start of yet another auction where this Congress sells out the public interest to the special interests.

## THE BUSINESS OF GOVERNING

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman from New York State said it all when she quoted her mother: Actions speak louder than words.

Now unfortunately as the calendar gives way to spring and ultimately to November, our campaigner in chief seems to be willing yet again to shut down the Federal Government in a bald-faced political tactic. Mr. Speaker, he is trying to bully this Chamber into spending \$8 billion in additional taxpayers' dollars in a cynical attempt to be reelected.

Mr. Speaker, the American people know full well that actions speak louder than words. Once again I reach out, Mr. Speaker, to our friends on the other side, ask them to join together and to help us govern, not to electioneer, not to have politics as usual but to get about the business of governing this great Nation.

#### REDUCED FUNDING FOR EDUCATION TO HAVE SEVERE IMPACT

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I just want to point out again that the cuts in education that are happening right now because of the reduced funding levels in these continuing resolutions that the Republican leadership continues to put forward in this House are having a severe impact on education in secondary schools, primary schools, as well as higher education around the country. We are talking, in this continuing resolution that passed last week, if it were to continue for the rest of this year, about a \$3 billion cut in education programs.

What that means is higher property taxes in those school districts which decide to continue those programs, or simply the elimination of valuable educational programs that students take advantage of. Already I am hearing from my school boards and from educators in my district in New Jersey who are saying that if the level of cuts continue the rest of this year as they have since the beginning of October, the beginning of this fiscal year, the consequences are dire for education programs on every level. It is sad because, once again, I feel that education should be a priority of this Congress and should not be cut back.

#### TRAVELS OF THE ENERGY SECRETARY

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

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, Secretary O'Leary continues to call the shots at the Energy Department. Oh, no, she can't be fired despite the flagrant abuse of her privilege, not right, but privilege of travel.

The taxpayers, in my opinion, have been ripped off because of her excessive travel. Ms. O'Leary flies first class or she charters her own private plane and is accompanied by her ubiquitous entourage.

The time has come for President Clinton to show this woman the gate that leads to the road out of town. Even then she will likely demand a first-class ticket or a private charter and her entourage of 5 to 25 aides to preclude any heavy lifting on her part.

Oh, no, she's special, she can't be fired. Yet she will continue to enjoy

the luxury of worldwide travel at the expense of the American taxpayers as well as her own employees.

Inexcusable, Mr. Speaker. Inexcusable.

#### THIRD GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN IN OFFING

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

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, this morning's Washington Post had an article quoting the Senate minority leader as saying that we are 5 days from a third Government shutdown and the situation is every bit as precarious as it was several months ago.

What it did not go on to say was why we are close to a Government shutdown: Because the President wants to spend more money on his favorite projects. He wanted \$8 billion. The House passed a bill providing \$3.3 billion, but that did not include the \$7 million more to foreign countries to teach students to measure rainfall; \$10 million more for the controversial art projects funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

There may be another Government shutdown, Mr. Speaker, but it will be entirely on the President's shoulders because he cannot get rid of his appetite for more spending projects.

#### COMPETING VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, this coming November the American people will have a choice between two competing views of Government. One view holds that Government must be restrained and that we must be fiscally responsible.

The other view holds a kind of utopian vision of Government. This utopian view holds that Washington spending and Washington taxes and Washington regulations are the key to a successful America.

For instance President Clinton has requested that Congress appropriate \$8 billion more in social spending and corporate welfare. The President who gave us the largest tax increase in American history now wants \$8 billion for essentially a reelection pork package.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are tired of the lavishness of the Clinton administration. They are sick and tired of seeing their tax dollars going to fund liberal programs with these dollars. We must reject this request and put a stop to the arrogant tax-and-spend policies of the Clinton administration.

#### THREE STRIKES AND GOP IS OUT

(Mr. MARKEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, already twice the Government has been shut down, once in the fall, once in December, and now we are skidding up towards a third point where the Government could be shut down yet again.

The conditions that the Republicans are imposing, we must cut the EPA by 20 percent, we must cut the Department of interior by 10 percent, we must gut environmental laws or else they will not allow the Government to operate.

GOP used to stand for Grand Old Party. Now GOP stands for gang of polluters who will shut down the Government unless we gut environmental laws in this country. They say the definition of insanity is someone that keeps doing the same thing over and over again expecting a different result.

□ 1415

The Republicans think they can shut down the Federal Government for a third time and that the people of this country will not be upset. They will be. This time they are going to say, "Three strikes and you're out."

#### COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY OVERSTEPPING HIS AUTHORITY AND CIRCUMVENTING STATE LAWS

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

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention the unlawful actions of an unelected official—an official who has taken it upon himself to dictate the laws governing the Nation's financial institutions, and proceeding so with no regard to State law or States' rights.

The Comptroller of the Currency, is overstepping his authority and circumventing State laws.

This overstepping of authority has become abundantly clear in my State of Oklahoma where the OCC has approved a national bank branch in a location that would be illegal under Oklahoma State law.

Laws governing intrastate branching have always been an authority granted exclusively to the States. The OCC must not be allowed to pick and choose which State laws national banks have to comply with.

They have become a rogue Federal agency and Congress must exercise its oversight authority. If we are to have a vibrant and healthy State banking system, we need to preserve State law.

I thank my colleague, Chairman LEACH of the House Banking Committee, for his recent comments on this issue. I appreciate his leadership and support for a dynamic and healthy dual banking system.

It is time that Congress take action to reign the Comptroller of the Currency and my hope that the banking Committee will hold hearings on the OCC's recent disregard for States rights and the dual banking system.