

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, consideration of the veto message on H.R. 956 will be postponed until Thursday, May 9, 1996, and, upon further consideration of the veto message on that day, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the question of passage of the bill, the objections of the President to contrary notwithstanding, without intervening motion or debate, except 1 hour of debate on the question of passage.

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON HOUSE OVERSIGHT TO FILE REPORT ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 417, PROVIDING AMOUNTS FOR EXPENSES OF SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON UNITED STATES ROLE IN IRANIAN ARMS TRANSFERS TO CROATIA AND BOSNIA

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Oversight may have until midnight tonight, May 6, 1996, to file a report on House Resolution 417, providing amounts for the expenses of the Select Subcommittee on the United States Role in Iranian arms transfers to Croatia and Bosnia of the Committee on International Relations in the Second Session of the 104th Congress.

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

There was no objection.

THE PRETEND PRESIDENT

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

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton is just pretending to be President. He is just pretending to propose solutions to our Nation's problems. Let me illustrate what I mean.

Take the issue of helping the working poor. The President, by proposing an increase in the minimum wage, has a pretend solution to a real problem. Raising minimum wage will cause job loss and won't help the working poor. Even President Clinton agrees. He said so in Time magazine in 1995. If President Clinton thought raising the minimum wage was a good idea, he should have raised it when the Democrats had control of the Congress during the first 2 years of his term. He didn't. I can only conclude that the President doesn't want to help the working poor, only wants to pretend to help.

Another recent example of pretending is the announcement that he will sell 12 million barrels of oil from the strategic petroleum reserve in an effort to reduce rising gasoline prices. Twelve million barrels sounds like a lot of oil, but it is less than a day's supply for the Nation. The sale of oil will have a neg-

ligible effect on prices. If he wanted a real solution to a real problem, he would support repeal of his 4.3 cents a gallon gasoline tax of 1993. However, President Clinton would rather make a bold announcement and pretend to do something about rising gas prices.

We need a President that has real solutions for real problems. Not a President who is playing "let's pretend."

MEDICARE TRUSTEES REPORT

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, the Medicare trustees reported last year that the part A trust fund, covering all inpatient hospital care, would be bankrupt by the year 2002, essentially confirming the findings of the Kerrey Commission. However, in light of new Treasury Department estimates that the trust fund ran a \$4.2 billion deficit through the first half of fiscal year 1996, experts, including the former Chief Actuary to HCFA, now conclude that the trust fund could be bankrupt in the year 2000, just 4 years from now. These facts should propel the administration to join the congressional initiatives to preserve Medicare. Instead, the April 1 deadline for this year's trustees report has come and gone with no White House action. It seems the White House is employing stalling tactics and stonewalling Medicare reform rather than saving the program. I urge the President to shelve the excuses, produce the report and join with the efforts currently underway in Congress to save Medicare now. Our Nation's seniors and others dependent on Medicare cannot tolerate the same White House failures to fix Medicare that we have endured for the last 4 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 1, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall votes 141 through 145.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on votes 141, 142, 144, and 145. I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 143.

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 THING THAT WILL NOT DIE—REPUBLICANS' PLAN TO CUT EDUCATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut [Ms. DeLauro] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, increasingly the extreme agenda of the gen-

tleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] and his leadership team reminds me of a bad 1950's B movie plot: The thing that would not die. They continue to resurrect bad ideas that have rightfully been shot down because in fact they have hurt working families in this country.

The latest example of a bad idea that will not stay dead is the House Republicans' plan to cut education.

It was only about 2 weeks ago when Speaker GINGRICH and other congressional Republicans waved the white flag and surrendered their extreme position on cutting education. They proposed making the deepest cuts in the history of public education in this Nation, totaling \$3.1 billion, and it took the outrage of parents and teachers and students at the grassroots level in addition to the determination of the President, of the congressional Democrats, to force Republican leadership to stop this wrongheaded attitude and attack on our Nation's future.

But let me say that parents do not rest easy. No sooner do we think that this bad idea is dead and buried, that then it finds new life.

Yesterday House Majority Leader DICK ARMEY proposed cutting education to pay for the repeal of the gas tax. I quote:

But the fact of the matter is, given our ability to contain the cost of energy and give tax relief, maybe we ought to take another look at the amount of money we are spending on education.

Direct quote: I watched the program.

Now I support a cut in the gas tax and would vote for such a thing. But who is going to get the benefit of it? Is the consumer going to get the 4.3 cents, or is that money going to go into the pockets of big oil?

That is what the danger is here, and what is going to get cut in order to pay for that tax cut? The last thing I want to see is a political game being played that does not really save the consumers any money in the end.

Is it not funny that when the increase, when it goes up, when the stock market goes up in its price, and the gas prices go up at the pump, when that goes down, when the stock market goes down, is it not funny that the gas prices for consumers and for families grudgingly comes down and takes a very, very long time for it to do it?

If we are going to cut the gas tax, then we should have the big oil companies pay for that gas tax cut and not education programs that serve working families in this country.

The other thing that we ought to consider at the same time is how come the prices rose so quickly, how come all the prices went up at the exact same time with the exact amount of increase? Is not that strange?

Let us take a look at and investigate that portion of this debate.

Let me just say that instead of cutting corporate pork the gentleman from the big oil State of Texas proposes cutting education for our kids to

pay for a tax cut that will have resulted in a major windfall for the wealthy oil barons in this Nation.

We all know that education holds the key to the American dream for the progress of working families in this country, yet the extreme agenda of the Republican revolution calls for devastating cuts in education. Their bill last year would have cut basic skills training, reading, writing, arithmetic by 17 percent.

The Republican majority tried last year to cut safe and drug-free schools by 57 percent, which would have denied 23 million children in this country these common-sense protections.

The extremists would have proposed killing President Bush's bipartisan Goals 2000 initiative which is helping 44 million children nationwide raise the standards of their educational performance, and in an age when tuition costs for college are going through the roof, the majority attempted to roll back direct student loans which would have denied 1,200 schools and 2.5 million students the opportunity to participate in this initiative that makes college more affordable for working families in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I think the Republican leader's advisers must have been too close to the gas fumes when they told him to propose that one. Hard-working American families struggle and scrimp every simple day to provide educational opportunities for their kids. They know, no one knows better than them, that in today's economy what you earn depends on what you learn.

So these middle-class folks take responsibility for their families, and maybe they do not take that vacation, and maybe they do not buy expensive clothes. We should honor their sacrifice. Let us help working families play by the rules. Help them get their kids a good education. Let us not give a tax break and pork to the special interests. Let us help working families and not cut education programs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from California [Mr. DORNAN] is recognized for 60 minutes.

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

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legis-

lative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. GOSS) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes each day on May 7, 8, 9, and 10.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. MONTGOMERY) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. CARDIN.
Mr. SERRANO in two instances.
Mr. POMEROY.
Ms. HARMAN.
Mrs. LINCOLN.
Mr. SKELTON.
Mr. CONYERS.
Mr. LANTOS.
Mrs. KENNELLY.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1720. An act to establish the Nicodemus National Historic Site and the New Bedford National Historic Landmark; to the Committee on Resources.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 2064. An act to grant the consent of Congress to an amendment of the Historic Chattahoochee Compact between the States of Alabama and Georgia.

H.R. 2243. An act to amend the Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Act of 1984, to extend for three years the availability of moneys for the restoration of fish and wildlife in the Trinity River, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 7, 1996, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2800. A letter from the Chief, Forest Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Disposal of National Forest System Timber;

Modification of Timber Sale Contracts in Extraordinary Conditions (Interim Final Rule) (RIN: 0596-AB58) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2801. A letter from the Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting the Comptroller's final rule—Community Reinvestment Act Regulations (RIN: 1557-AB51) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2802. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of Thrift Supervision, transmitting the Office's final rule—Community Reinvestment Act Regulations (RIN: 1557-AB51) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2803. A letter from the Executive Director, Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, transmitting the final report of the Assistant General Counsel for Professional Liability of the RTC, also the final report on Coordinated Pursuit of Claims for the period concluding December 31, 1995, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1441a(w)(10)(C) and 12 U.S.C. 1441a(b)(11)(G); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2804. A letter from the Executive Director, Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, transmitting a report on the activities and efforts of the RTC, the FDIC, and the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board for the 3-month period ending December 31, 1995, pursuant to Public Law 101-73, section 501(a) (103 Stat. 387); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

2805. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy Management Staff, Office of Policy Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medical Devices; Temporary Suspension of Approval of a Premarket Approval Application (RIN: 0910-AA09) received May 3, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Commerce.

2806. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Monitoring Requirements for Public Drinking Water Supplies: Cryptosporidium, Giardia, Viruses, Disinfection Byproducts, Water Treatment Plant Data and Other Information Requirements (FLR-5501-1) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2807. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Amendment to Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources; Small Industrial-Commercial-Institutional Steam Generating Units (FLR-5467-8) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2808. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Adjustment of Reid Vapor Pressure Lower Limit for Reformulated Gasoline Sold in the State of California (FLR-5501-3) received May 2, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2809. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Texas; Revision to the State Implementation Plan [SIP] Addressing Visible Emissions (FLR-5468-2) received May 2, 1996,