

over non-Federal payloads in the Space Shuttle launch assignments, and what policies should be developed to prioritize among payloads generally;

(6) whether the public interest requires that certain Space Shuttle functions continue to be performed by the Federal Government; and

(7) how much cost savings, if any, will be generated by privatization of the Space Shuttle.

(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Within 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall complete the study required under subsection (c) and shall submit a report on the study to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 261. LAUNCH VOUCHER DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.

Section 504 of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1993 (15 U.S.C. 5803) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “the Office of Commercial Programs within”; and

(B) by striking “Such program shall not be effective after September 30, 1995.”;

(2) by striking subsection (c); and

(3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

SEC. 262. PRIVATIZATION OF MICROGRAVITY PARABOLIC FLIGHT OPERATIONS.

(a) FINDING.—The Congress finds that no national security or mission critical justification exists for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to maintain its own fleet of aircraft to provide a short duration microgravity environment via parabolic flight.

(b) PRIVATIZATION OF FLIGHT OPERATIONS.—

(1) The Administrator shall privatize all parabolic flight aircraft operations conducted by or for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in support of microgravity research, astronaut training, and other functions, whose total cost can be reduced through issuance of one or more long-term, renewable, block purchase contracts for the performance of such operations by United States commercial sector providers.

(2) Within 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue a request for proposals to provide services which meet all or part of the microgravity flight needs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as described in paragraph (1) at a net savings to the United States Government. The Administrator shall coordinate the process of review of such proposals, and shall oversee the transfer of such operations to the commercial sector as specified in paragraph (3).

(3) Within 6 months after the issuance of a request for proposals under paragraph (2), the Administrator shall, where cost effective, award one or more contracts for microgravity parabolic flight services to a microgravity flight provider that is certified by the Federal Aviation Administration. Except as provided in paragraph (4), the Administrator shall cease all National Aeronautics and Space Administration-operated parabolic aircraft flights, and shall thereafter procure all microgravity parabolic flight services from commercial sector providers. National Aeronautics and Space Administration experimenters, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration-funded experimenters, who would otherwise use National Aeronautics and Space Administration-owned or operated microgravity parabolic flight aircraft, shall be issued

vouchers for the procurement of microgravity parabolic flight services from the commercial sector.

(4) The Administrator may, as necessary to ensure the continuity of National Aeronautics and Space Administration operations, continue to operate parabolic aircraft flights for up to 3 months after a contract is awarded under paragraph (3). If the Administrator continues operations pursuant to this paragraph, the Administrator shall concurrently transmit to the Congress an explanation of the reasons for such action.

(5) Six months after the National Aeronautics and Space Administration ceases all parabolic aircraft flights under paragraph (3), the Administrator shall transmit a report to Congress on the effectiveness of privatization under this section.

SEC. 263. UNITARY WIND TUNNEL PLAN ACT OF 1949 AMENDMENTS.

The Unitary Wind Tunnel Plan Act of 1949 is amended—

(1) in section 101 (50 U.S.C. 511) by striking “transsonic and supersonic” and inserting in lieu thereof “transonic, supersonic, and hypersonic”; and

(2) in section 103 (50 U.S.C. 513)—

(A) by striking “laboratories” in subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof “laboratories and centers”; and

(B) by striking “supersonic” in subsection (a) and inserting in lieu thereof “transonic, supersonic, and hypersonic”; and

(C) by striking “laboratory” in subsection (c) and inserting in lieu thereof “facility”.

SEC. 264. USE OF ABANDONED AND UNDERUTILIZED BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In meeting the needs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for additional facilities, the Administrator, whenever feasible, shall select abandoned and underutilized buildings, grounds, and facilities in depressed communities that can be converted to National Aeronautics and Space Administration facilities at a reasonable cost, as determined by the Administrator.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the term “depressed communities” means rural and urban communities that are relatively depressed, in terms of age of housing, extent of poverty, growth of per capita income, extent of unemployment, job lag, or surplus labor.

SEC. 265. COST EFFECTIVENESS CALCULATIONS.

In calculating the cost effectiveness of the cost of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration engaging in an activity as compared to the private sector, the comparison shall be made based only on the price the private sector provider will charge for such activity.

SEC. 266. PROCUREMENT OMBUDSMAN.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall establish the position of Procurement Ombudsman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(b) FUNCTIONS.—The Procurement Ombudsman shall—

(1) be responsible, in consultation with the Office of Procurement, for reviewing proposed new missions for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to determine if such missions, or elements thereof, can be fulfilled by United States commercial providers; and

(2) serve as a point of contact for—

(A) persons with whom the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has entered into a procurement contract, with respect to concerns of those persons about that contract; and

(B) United States commercial providers, with respect to issues relating to competition between those providers and the Federal Government.

(c) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Procurement Ombudsman shall annually, in conjunction with the President’s annual budget request, transmit a report to Congress describing the activities of the Ombudsman during the previous year.

SEC. 267. AUTHORITY TO REDUCE OR SUSPEND CONTRACT PAYMENTS BASED ON SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE OF FRAUD.

Section 2307(h)(8) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “and (4)” and inserting in lieu thereof “(4), and (6)”.

Mr. WALKER. 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. KINGSTON) having assumed the chair, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, 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. 3322) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for civilian science activities of the Federal Government, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3517, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS BILL, FISCAL YEAR 1997

Mr. SOLOMON, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-599) on the resolution (H. Res. 442) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3517) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON H.R. 3540, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Mr. CALLAHAN, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 104-600) on the bill (H.R. 3540) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All points of order are reserved.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, the pending business is the question of the Speaker’s approval of the Journal.

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

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1462

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to

remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 1462.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2723 AND H.R. 1972

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 2723 and H.R. 1972.

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

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF JERRY JUNKINS, PRESIDENT OF TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I join Dallas, the State of Texas, and the Nation in expressing my profound sympathy for the loss of a world leader, Mr. Jerry Junkins, president of Texas Instruments, who died, untimely, of a heart attack while traveling in Europe.

Mr. Junkins is well known throughout Texas, the Nation, and the world. He was a leader in trade policies, a leader in support of education, a leader in support of public-private partnerships and the creation of jobs, and a real leader in giving minority businesspeople opportunities. A very untimely death.

Mr. Speaker, with great sadness, I rise to pay special tribute to a good friend, and a remarkable individual who has distinguished himself by his exceptional contributions to the Dallas business community. Mr. Jerry R. Junkins, the Chairman, president and CEO of Texas Instruments, passed away from a heart attack while on a business trip in Germany. He was 58.

Jerry Junkins will be remembered for his many contributions in the international, national and state arenas, particularly as a leader in pushing for global trade expansion for the U.S. But for those of us in Dallas, he will be remembered as a champion for our community. He was a champion of early childhood education, especially for TI's support of the Margaret H. Cone Model Head Start Center. For many years, he chaired the Dallas Citizen's Council Education Committee. He was a guardian angel for Paul Quinn College, and he was the inspiration behind the TI Minority Business Development Program which grew to over \$120 million in a very short time.

Jerry Junkins joined Texas Instruments in 1959, and worked his way to its top position of president and CEO in 1985. He became chairman in 1988. Jerry Junkins served in a broad range of civic and industrial positions in Dallas, including: Member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Methodist University; and Member of the Board of Directors of Cat-

pillar Inc., The Procter & Gamble Company, and 3M. He was also a member of the Business Council, cochairman of The Business Roundtable, and chairman of its International Trade and Investment Task Force.

Mr. Speaker, all of Dallas and the State of Texas grieve for Jerry Junkins' wife, Sally, his daughters Kirsten and Karen, his parents, and his brothers and sisters. Mr. Junkins was an extraordinary leader, an exemplary businessman, and a highly respected national and community leaders. He inspired those he worked with, won the devotion of his friends, and earned the gratitude of his Nation. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Jerry Junkins.

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 California [Mr. RIGGS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. RIGGS 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 New York [Mr. NADLER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

WHAT NEXT FOR THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL?

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. Mr. Speaker, this week, the President's business partners in the Whitewater venture were found guilty of a total of 22 counts of bank fraud. James and Susan McDougal were President and Mrs. Clinton's business partners in the Whitewater Development Corp.—which is still the main focus of Kenneth Starr's investigation.

In addition, Jim Guy Tucker, Bill Clinton's successor as Governor of Arkansas, was found guilty of conspiracy and mail fraud.

Recently, a number of my colleagues have been raising questions about Mr. Starr's ethics and his work as Independent Counsel. They have stated that he is biased because of his Republican background or his legal work for different clients.

Mr. Speaker, this is nonsense being put out by the Democrats for political purposes. Mr. Starr's results speak for themselves:

First, of 19 charges that Mr. Starr filed against Mr. McDougal, he was convicted on 18.

Second, of four charges Mr. Starr filed against Mrs. McDougal, she was convicted on all four.

Third, of seven charges filed against Governor Tucker, he was convicted on two.

Fourth, of 30 charges Mr. Starr filed in these cases, he won convictions on 24. That is an 80 percent conviction rate. A jury of 12 Arkansas citizens has examined the evidence and clearly does not feel that Mr. Starr is filing frivolous or unsupported charges.

Fifth, in addition to this week's convictions, Mr. Starr has received guilty pleas from nine other people involved in Whitewater—political associates of President Clinton, associates of Madison Guarantee Savings and Loan, and people who worked on the Whitewater deal.

Sixth, one of those people who pled guilty was the Associate Attorney General of the United States—Webster Hubbell—a close friend of the President.

Clearly, serious crimes have been committed, and the independent counsel is doing a good job of bringing people to account for them. That is why Democrats are suddenly attacking the Independent Counsel.

At this point, there are two obvious questions that everyone is asking:

First, what impact do these convictions have on the President and Mrs. Clinton?

Second, where does the Independent Counsel go from here?

Let me shed a little light on these questions.

What impact do these convictions have on the President and Mrs. Clinton?

President Clinton was not on trial in this particular case. But he was never far away from it either.

David Hale testified that then-Governor Clinton pressured him to make the illegal loan of \$300,000 to Susan McDougal.

Documents presented during the trial showed that part of that money went to pay debts of the Whitewater Development Corp. Bill and Hillary Clinton were partners in Whitewater, so they directly benefited from this loan.

The defense believed President Clinton's testimony during the trial would be a knockout punch for the defendants. It wasn't. The President's testimony apparently did little to cast doubts on the prosecution's case. Mr. and Mrs. McDougal were convicted on 22 of 23 counts.

The Castle Grande real estate deal was at the heart of this case. As an attorney at the Rose Law Firm, Hillary drew up legal papers for some of the key transactions. Throughout the trial, documentary evidence showed that this deal was a series of sham transactions that helped bring about the downfall of Madison Guarantee Savings and Loan.

This raises a very serious question: How much did Hillary Clinton know about the true nature of the Castle Grande deal?