

I think it is very important that we continue trying to find the bipartisan effort, instead of the rhetoric we have heard previously tonight about how this party, the Republican Party, does not care about seniors. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The two major proposals that have come before this Congress in this session have been raising the income eligibility for seniors' earnings, and No. 2, the other proposal was to roll back in 1993 the unfair tax on Social Security. The Republican majority brought both those forward and they were both adopted in this House.

Now it is incumbent upon us to continue fighting for seniors to make sure Medicare provides the health care benefits they need, but removing the waste from the system, and that is the key feature here. We will make sure that we eliminate the waste, the fraud and abuse that has gone on for so many years and must end.

Part and parcel of our making sure that health care is improved for our seniors is that we provide FDA reform as well, to make sure that for all citizens we speed up the approval of life-saving, life-extending drugs and medical devices in this country.

□ 2345

This can and will be done under legislation that has been introduced in the Committee on Commerce under the leadership of JIM GREENWOOD as the task force chairman, the Commerce Committee chairman TOM BLILEY, the subcommittee chairman MIKE BILIRAKIS, and the three sponsors of the bill, Congressman KLUG, Congressman BARTON and Congressman BURR of North Carolina who has the pharmaceutical bill.

Together the bills dealing with pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and food will in fact move this country forward in such a way that the discoveries we have in the United States will be kept here. If we do not speed up the FDA reform process, then the discoveries for medical benefit and the jobs will go overseas. We cannot afford that as a Nation both from an employment point of view or from a health care point of view.

So I am pleased to see that the leadership is moving forward with FDA. What we are going to do is work with the Commissioner of FDA and the White House to make sure this legislation is bipartisan, is passed, and we do make a difference in the lives of the people we are representing.

Mr. Speaker, as I know from the hearing I had in my own district in Montgomery County, PA, in the county seat, we had victims who have diseases, patients who are waiting for a cure, a vaccine. They tell us that if we can speed up the approval of these drugs, they will live longer, others will have a chance to live longer and frankly their families are waiting for this kind of relief.

We need to fast track this legislation. I am very appreciative that the

individuals who brought forward the vehicle in the Committee on Commerce folded my legislation which was introduced last year into the majority bills and I am hopeful that together with other Congressmen and the Senate we will be able to get this passed in this session and make a real difference in people's lives.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HOUGHTON (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today, on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. QUINN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), after 12 noon today, on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. GUTKNECHT (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), after 12:30 p.m. today, on account of attending his daughter's graduation.

Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of official business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FILNER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, for 5 minutes today.

Mr. VENTO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. PELOSI, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. JONES) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. EWING, for 5 minutes today.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes on June 5.

Mr. DELAY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CHRYSLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ROHRBACHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

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

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

Mr. LANTOS in three instances.

Mrs. MALONEY.

Mr. TORRICELLI.

Ms. WOOLSEY.

Mr. JACOBS.

Mr. BONIOR.

Mr. TRAFICANT.

Ms. KAPTUR.

Mrs. LINCOLN.

Mr. KANJORSKI in two instances.

Mr. RUSH.

Mr. KLECZKA.

Mr. FAZIO of California.

Mr. CONDIT.

Mr. SANDERS in six instances.

Mr. LIPINSKI.

Mr. MASCARA.

Mrs. SCHROEDER.

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois.

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

Mr. FIELDS of Texas.

Mr. OXLEY.

Mr. RIGGS.

Mr. QUINN.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

Mr. HORN in two instances.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

Mr. LIVINGSTON.

Mr. SHAW.

Mrs. ROUKEMA in two instances.

Mr. GEKAS.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH.

Mr. CRANE.

Mrs. MORELLA.

Mr. ZIMMER.

Mr. CHRYSLER.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania.

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

Mr. HOSTETTLER.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio.

Mr. HALL of Texas.

Mr. MCINNIS.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

Mrs. SMITH of Washington.

Mr. FOLEY.

Mr. VENTO.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, May 31, 1996, at 9 a.m.

OATH OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

"I, A B, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely; without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Members of the 104th Congress,

pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 2b:

Honorable EARL BLUMENAUER, Third Congressional District of Oregon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS ETC.

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

3224. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Fluid Milk Promotion Order; Final Rule [DA-96-07] received May 30, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

3225. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Secretary's report pursuant to section 1208(c) of Public Law 104-106; to the Committee on National Security.

3226. A letter from the Director, Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Language Affairs, Department of Education, transmitting notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year [FY] 1996—Foreign Language Assistance Grants (State educational agencies), pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232(d)(1); to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

3227. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting final priorities—Research and Demonstration Project; Rehabilitation Research and Training Center; and a Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232(d)(1); to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

3228. A letter from the Director, Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Language Affairs, Department of Education, transmitting notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year [FY] 1996—Foreign Language Assistance Grants (Local educational agencies), pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232(d)(1); to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

3229. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Regulations and Legislation, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's report on the notice of final funding priorities for Research and Demonstration Project, Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers, and Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center—received May 30, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(B); to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

3230. A letter from the Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting the Commission's annual report for fiscal year 1994, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2000e-4(e); to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

3231. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled the "Runaway and Homeless Youth Amendments of 1996"; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

3232. A letter from the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards' Head Restraints (RIN: 2127-AF70) received May 30, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3233. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Prosulfuron;

Extension of Pesticide Tolerance (FRL-5371-8) received May 28, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3234. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Prosulfuron; Pesticide Tolerance (FRL-5357-5) received May 28, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3235. A letter from the Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Parts 2 and 15 of the Commission's Rules to Deregulate the Equipment Authorization Requirements for Digital Devices (ET Docket No. 95-19) received May 30, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3236. A letter from the Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals; Dolphin Safe Tuna Labeling; Regulation Consolidation [Docket No. 960516135-6135-01; I.D. 051096A] (RIN: 0648-AF08) received May 29, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3237. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting the Department's 33d quarterly report to Congress on the status of Exxon and stripper well oil overcharge funds as of December 31, 1995; to the Committee on Commerce.

3238. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the texts of ILO Convention No. 176 and Recommendation No. 183 concerning Safety and Health in Mines and the Protocol of 1995 to Convention No. 81 concerning labor inspection, the instruments were adopted by the International Labor Conference at its 82d Session, at Geneva, June 22, 1995, pursuant to Article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labor Organization; to the Committee on International Relations.

3239. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on employment of U.S. citizens by certain international organizations, pursuant to Public Law 102-138, section 181 (105 Stat. 682); to the Committee on International Relations.

3240. A letter from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting the semiannual report on activities of the inspector general for the period October 1, 1995, through March 31, 1996, and the semiannual management report for the same period, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3241. A letter from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting a list of all reports issued or released in April 1996, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 719(h); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3242. A letter from the Executive Director, Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting the Committee's final rule—Additions to the Procurement List (61 F.R. 6977, 14088, and 15225) received May 30, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3243. A letter from the Chairman, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting the semiannual report on activities of the inspector general for the period October 1, 1995, through March 31, 1996, and the semiannual management report for the same period, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3244. A letter from the Chairman of the Board, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the semiannual report on

activities of the inspector general for the period October 1, 1995, through March 31, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3245. A letter from the Independent Counsel, Office of Independent Counsel, transmitting the 1995 annual report in compliance with the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988, pursuant to Public Law 100-504, section 104(a) (102 Stat. 2525); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3246. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Allowances and Differentials; Separate Maintenance Allowance for Duty at Johnston Island (RIN: 3206-AH17) received May 28, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3247. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule—Prevailing Rate System; Abolishment of Merced, CA, Nonappropriated Fund Wage Area (RIN: 3206-AH30) received May 28, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3248. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the semiannual report on activities of the inspector general for the period October 1, 1995, through March 31, 1996, and the semiannual management report for the same period, also the inspector general's first 5-year strategic plan, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

3249. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Royalty Relief for Producing Leases and Certain Existing Leases in Deep Water (Mineral Management Service) (RIN: 1010-AC13) received May 30, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

3250. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Oregon Caves National Monument, Admission to Caves (National Park Service) (RIN: 1024-AC26) received May 30, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

3251. A letter from the Chairman, Mississippi River Corridor Study Commission, transmitting the Commission's reports entitled "Mississippi River Corridor Study Volume 1: Feasibility Report" and "Mississippi River Corridor Study Volume 2: Inventory of Resources and Significance", pursuant to Public Law 101-398, section 9(b) (104 Stat. 859); to the Committee on Resources.

3252. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule—Foreign Prohibitions on Longshore Work by United States Nationals (Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs) (22 CFR Part 89) received May 28, 1996, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3253. A letter from the President and Executive Director, National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum, transmitting the Museum's 1995 audited financial statement and a copy of form 990 which was filed with the Internal Revenue Service, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 4111; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3254. A letter from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting the Department's report entitled "Effects of the Immigration Reform and Control Act: Characteristics and Labor Market Behavior of the Legalized Population Five Years Following Legalization," pursuant to section 404(c) of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 [IRCA]; to the Committee on the Judiciary.