[Roll No. 15]

AYES-407

Abercrombie Doggett Johnson (SD) Johnson, E. B. Ackerman Dooley Doolittle Allard Johnson, Sam Andrews Dornan Johnston Archer Dovle Jones Kanjorski Bachus Dreier Baesler Duncan Kaptur Baker (CA) Dunn Kasich Edwards Baker (LA) Kelly Baldacci Ehlers Kennedy (MA) Ballenger Ehrlich Kennedy (RI) Kennelly Barcia Emerson Kildee Engel Barrett (NE) English Kim Barrett (WI) Ensign King Bartlett Eshoo Kingston Barton Evans Kleczka Bass Everett Klink Bateman Ewing Klug Farr Fawell Knollenberg Becerra Beilenson Kolbe Bentsen Fazio LaFalce Fields (LA) LaHood Bereuter Bevill Fields (TX) Lantos Bilbray Filner Largent Flake Flanagan Bilirakis Latham LaTourette Bishop Bliley Foglietta Laughlin Foley Forbes Lazio Leach Blute Boehlert Fowler Boehner Levin Bonilla Fox Frank (MA) Lewis (CA) Lewis (GA) Bonior Franks (CT) Lewis (KY) Bono Borski Franks (NJ) Lincoln Frelinghuysen Boucher Linder Lipinski Brewster Frisa Browder Frost LoBiondo Brown (CA) Funderburk Lofgren Brown (FL) Furse Longley Brown (OH) Gallegly Lowey Lucas Brownback Ganske Bryant (TN) Gejdenson Luther Bunn Gekas Maloney Bunning Gephardt Manton Geren Gilchrest Burr Manzullo Burton Markey Martinez Buyer Gillmor Callahan Gilman Martini Gonzalez Calvert Mascara Goodlatte Camp Matsui Campbell Goodling McCarthy McCollum Gordon Canady Cardin McDade Castle Graham McDermott McHale Chabot Green Chambliss Greenwood McHugh Chenoweth Gunderson McInnis Christensen Gutierrez McIntosh Chrysler Gutknecht McKeon Clav Hall (OH) Hall (TX) McKinnev Clayton McNulty Clement Hamilton Meehan Clinger Hancock Meek Clyburn Hansen Menendez Coble Coburn Harman Metcalf Hastert Mevers Coleman Hastings (FL) Mfume Collins (GA) Hastings (WA) Mica Miller (CA) Collins (IL) Haves Miller (FL) Hayworth Collins (MI) Minge Mink Combest Hefley Condit Hefner Heineman Moakley Conyers Herger Hilleary Cooley Molinari Costello Montgomery Cox Hilliard Moorhead Coyne Hinchey Moran Cramer Morella Hobson Hoekstra Crane Murtha Crapo Hoke Myers Myrick Holden Cremeans Cubin Nadler Cunningham Hostettler Neal Danner Houghton Nethercutt Davis Hoyer Hutchinson Neumann de la Garza Nev Deal Hyde Norwood DeLauro Inglis Nussle Oberstar DeLay Istook Deutsch Jackson (IL) Obey Diaz-Balart Dickey Jackson-Lee Ortiz (TX) Orton Jacobs Dicks Owens Oxley Packard Dingell Jefferson Johnson (CT) Dixon

Pallone Salmon Tauzin Parker Sanders Taylor (MS) Pastor Sanford Taylor (NC) Paxon Sawyer Tejeda Thomas Payne (NJ) Saxton Payne (VA) Scarborough Thompson Pelosi Schiff Thornberry Peterson (FL) Schroeder Thornton Peterson (MN) Schumer Thurman Petri Scott Tiahrt. Seastrand Pickett Torres Pombo Sensenbrenner Towns Traficant Pomerov Serrano Shadegg Porter Upton Portman Poshard Shaw Velazquez Shays Vento Shuster Visclosky Quillen Sisisky Volkmer Quinn Skaggs Vucanovich Walker Řadanovich Rahall Skelton Walsh Wamp Ramstad Slaughter Waters Watt (NC) Smith (MI) Rangel Smith (N.I) Reed Regula Smith (TX) Watts (OK) Richardson Smith (WA) Weldon (FL) Riggs Solomon Weldon (PA) Souder Weller Rivers Roberts Spence White Whitfield Roemer Spratt Rogers Stark Wicker Rohrabacher Stearns Wilson Ros-Lehtinen Stenholm Wise Rose Stockman Wolf Roth Stokes Woolsey Studds Roukema Wvnn Roybal-Allard Stump Yates Young (FL) Royce Stupak Rush Talent Zeliff Tanner Zimmer

NOT VOTING-26

Armey	Gibbons	Torkildsen
Berman	Hunter	Torricelli
Bryant (TX)	Lightfoot	Waldholtz
Chapman	Livingston	Ward
DeFazio	McCrery	Waxman
Dellums	Mollohan	Williams
Durbin	Olver	Wyden
Fattah	Schaefer	Young (AK)
Ford	Tate	

□ 1638

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. WARD. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 15 on H.R. 2726 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "aye".

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2657 and H.R. 2726.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WHITE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to make an announcement

After consultation with the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent and approval, the Chair announces that tonight when the two Houses meet in joint session to hear an address by the President of the United States, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those on his left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House.

Due to the large attendance which is anticipated, the Chair feels that the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly adhered to.

Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor, and the cooperation of all Members is requested.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 8:40 p.m. for the purpose of receiving in joint session the President of the United States.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 8:40 p.m.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 8 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.

JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE HELD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 39 TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER of the House presided. The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Kevin Brennan, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate, who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY];

The gentleman from Texas [Mr. DELAY];

The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER]:

The gentleman from California [Mr. Cox];

The gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. DICKEY];

The gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. HUTCHINSON];

The gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT];

The gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Bonior]:

The gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO];

The gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. KENNELLY];

The gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. THORNTON]; and

The gentlewoman from Arkansas [Mrs. LINCOLN].

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort the President of the United States into the Chamber:

The Senator from Kansas [Mr. DOLE]; The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. LOTT];

The Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN];

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. NICKLES];

The Senator from South Carolina [Mr. THURMOND];

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. DASCHLE];

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. FORD];

The Senator from Maryland [Ms. MI-KULSKI];

The Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. KERRY];

The Senator from Nebraska [Mr. KERREY];

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID]; The Senator from West Virginia [Mr. ROCKEFELLER];

The Senator from North Dakota [Mr. DORGAN];

The Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAUX];

The Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD]; and

The Senator from Nebraska [Mr. Exon].

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms announced the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, His Royal Highness, Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia.

The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for him.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms announced the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Chief Justice and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms announced the Cabinet of the President of the United States.

The members of the Cabinet of the President of the United States entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seats reserved for them in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

At 9 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m., the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Wilson Livingood, announced the President of the United States.

The President of the United States, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, and stood at the Clerk's desk.

[Applause, the Members rising.]

The SPEAKER. Members of the Congress, I have the high privilege and distinct honor of presenting to you the President of the United States.

[Applause, the Members rising.]

THE STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The PRESIDENT. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, Members of the 104th Congress, distinguished guests, my fellow Americans all across our land: Let me begin tonight by saying to our men and women in uniform around the world and especially those helping peace take root in Bosnia and to their families, I thank you. America is very, very proud of you.

My duty tonight is to report on the State of the Union, not the state of our government but of our American community, and to set forth our responsibilities, in the words of our Founders, to "form a more perfect union."

The State of the Union is strong. Our economy is the healthiest it has been in three decades. We have the lowest combined rates of unemployment and inflation in 27 years. We have created nearly 8 million new jobs, over a million of them in basic industries like construction and automobiles. American is selling more cars than Japan for the first time since the 1970s, and for three years in a row we have had a record number of new businesses started in our country.

Our leadership in the world is also strong, bringing hope for new peace. And perhaps most important, we are gaining ground and restoring our fundamental values. The crime rate, the welfare and food stamp rolls, the poverty rate and the teen pregnancy rate are all down. And as they go down, prospects for America's future go up.

We live in an Age of Possibility. A hundred years ago we moved from farm to factory. Now we move to an age of technology, information and global competition. These changes have opened vast new opportunities for our people, but they have also presented them with stiff challenges.

While more Americans are living better, too many of our fellow citizens are working harder just to keep up, and they are rightly concerned about the security of their families.

We must answer here three fundamental questions: First, how do we make the American dream of opportunity for all a reality for all Americans who are willing to work for it? Second, how do we preserve our old and enduring values as we move into the future? And third, how do we meet these challenges together as one America?

We know big government does not have all the answers. We know there's not a program for every problem. We know and we have worked to give the American people a smaller, less bureaucratic government in Washington. And we have to give the American peo-

ple one that lives within its means. The era of big government is over. But we cannot go back to the time when our citizens were left to fend for themselves. Instead, we must go forward as one America, one nation, working together to meet the challenges we face together. Self-reliance and teamwork are not opposing virtues. We must have both

I believe our new, smaller government must work in an old-fashioned American way, together with all of our citizens through State and local governments, in the workplace, in religious, charitable and civic associations. Our goal must be to enable all our people to make the most of their own lives, with stronger families, more educational opportunities, economic security, safer streets, a cleaner environment and a safer world.

To improve the state of our union, we must ask more of ourselves. We must expect more of each other and we must face our challenges together.

Here in this place our responsibility begins with balancing the budget in a way that is fair to all Americans. There is now broad bipartisan agreement that permanent deficit spending must come to an end.

I compliment the Republican leadership and their membership for the energy and determination you have brought to this task of balancing the budget. And I thank the Democrats for passing the largest deficit reduction plan in history in 1993, which has already cut the deficit nearly in half in three years.

Since 1993, we have all begun to see the benefits of deficit reduction. Lower interest rates have made it easier for businesses to borrow and to invest and to create new jobs. Lower interest rates have brought down the cost of home mortgages, car payments and credit card rates to ordinary citizens. Now it is time to finish the job and balance the budget.

Though differences remain among us which are significant, the combined total of the proposed savings that are common to both plans is more than enough, using the numbers from your Congressional Budget Office, to balance the budget in 7 years and to provide a modest tax cut. These cuts are real. They will require sacrifice from everyone. But these cuts do not undermine our fundamental obligations to our parents, our children and our future by endangering Medicare or Medicaid or education or the environment or by raising taxes on working families.

I have said before, and let me say again, many good ideas have come out of our negotiations. I have learned a lot about the way both Republicans and Democrats view the debate before us. I have learned a lot about the good ideas that each side has that we could all embrace. We ought to resolve our remaining differences.

I am willing to work to resolve them. I am ready to meet tomorrow. But I