



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1997

No. 160

## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

As we approach this Thanksgiving season with the joy and happiness of reunion with family and friends, we offer our prayer of thanksgiving to You, oh God, for the wonder and beauty and splendor of the gifts that you have given us.

For family who support us, for friends who share their affection, for the opportunities of work and service, for the gifts of faith and hope and love, we offer these words of praise. May Your benediction be ever with us, may Your blessing never depart from us, and may Your words of grace remain with us always. Amen.

### 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 gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CLAYTON 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 BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

### GAMING INDUSTRY EMPLOYEE IMPACT SURVEY

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, sometimes even through the fog of Washington the truth shines through.

Last week, I distributed to all my colleagues a study completed by the accounting firm of Coopers & Lybrand that indicated the numerous positive

### NOTICE

Under the Rules for Publication of the Congressional Record, a final issue of the Congressional Record for the first session of the 105th Congress will be published on the 31st day after adjournment in order to permit Members to revise and extend their remarks.

All materials for insertion must be signed by the Member and delivered to the respective offices responsible for the Record in the House or Senate between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (until the 10th day after adjournment). House Members should deliver statements to the Office of Floor Reporters (Room HT-60 of the Capitol) and Senate Members to the Office of Official Reporters of Debate (S-123 in the Capitol).

The final issue will be dated the 31st day after adjournment and will be delivered on the 33d day after adjournment. None of the material printed in the final issue of the Congressional Record may contain subject matter, or relate to any event, that occurred after the adjournment date.

Along with signed statements, House Members are requested, whenever possible, to submit revised statements or extensions of remarks and other materials related to House Floor debate on diskette in electronic form in ASCII, WordPerfect or Microsoft Word format. Disks must be labeled with Members' names and the filename on the disk. All disks will be returned to Member offices via inside mail.

Senators statements should also be submitted electronically, either on a disk to accompany the signed statement, or by e-mail to the Official Reporters of Debate at "Record@Reporters".

Members of Congress desiring to purchase reprints of material submitted for inclusion in the Congressional Record may do so by contacting the Congressional Printing Management Division, at the Government Printing Office, on 512-0224.

By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

JOHN WARNER, *Chairman*.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

H10771

contributions made by the gaming industry to their employers and employees and the surrounding community as well.

The goal of the survey was to receive direct feedback from the industry employees themselves, and the results are truly a positive reflection of the advantages of the casino gaming industry.

Of the 178,000 gaming employees surveyed, 8.5 percent said they had left welfare due to their casino job. A further 63 percent of those surveyed said that they had a better health care coverage now than at their previous job.

Mr. Speaker, the results of the Gaming Industry Employee Impact Survey demonstrate the significant positive impact casino gaming has had on many families and communities across the country. I urge each of my colleagues to look over this survey to learn of the positive impact that the gaming industry has had on its employees.

#### LEVI STRAUSS LAYS OFF 6,400 WORKERS WHILE ONE EXECUTIVE GETS \$127 MILLION

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, last week Levi Strauss laid off 6,400 workers, mostly women, most of them making between \$5.50 and \$7.50 an hour. But last year, according to the San Francisco Chronicle, Levi Strauss gave its No. 2 executive, Thomas Tusher, \$105.8 million in stock options. Then it threw in another \$21.5 million as a bonus to offset taxes. Mr. Speaker, 6,400 people lose their job, one executive gets \$127 million.

My colleagues have heard of golden parachutes? Well, this, Mr. Speaker, is a platinum parachute, and meanwhile 6,400 people are looking for work. This has got to stop.

#### TRIBUTE TO MAJ. GEN. RONDAL H. SMITH

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

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to pay tribute to my good friend, Maj. Gen. Rondal H. Smith, who is retiring next week from his post as commander of the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center in Georgia.

As one of our country's leading experts in logistics, he assumed the command at Robins in June 1995 and has led Robins through what could probably be the most challenging 2½ years in the ALC's history.

His commitment to top quality work and community support was no more evident than when Robins Air Force Base was awarded the C-5 contract. General Smith, aided by the talented folks at Team Robins, put together an innovative bid which will save American taxpayers over \$190 million while ensuring a bright and productive future

for the Robins Air Logistics Center and the Warner Robins community alike.

As General Smith says goodbye next week to the Air Force he has so faithfully served, he can leave knowing that America is a safer and better place because of his distinguished career. I thank Ron for the contribution he has made to his community, his State, and above all, to his country. It has been a great honor to have worked with him over the last several years. He should know that he will be deeply missed, and I wish him and Debbie the very best as he enters the world of civilian life.

#### DEPENDABLE, AFFORDABLE, HIGH-QUALITY CHILD CARE NEEDED

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, as we are about to adjourn this year, we have many issues that remain to be dealt with, but one in particular I want to lift up is the whole issue of child care.

Recently, the President had a conference on child care, and certainly child care is an important, needed commodity for millions of children whose parents work outside the home. I am delighted that the President indeed focused the administration on this issue, but I am also saddened that we have not gone further here in Congress ourselves.

More than 12 million children under the age of 5, including half of the infants under the age of 1 year of age, spend at least part of their day each day away from their home. A well trained, competent child care provider is crucial to the health and the welfare of our children. There are millions of additional children under the age of 12 in the United States who are in some form of child care at the beginning or at the end of their school day. Working parents, regardless of their income, including working parents of poor and welfare-to-work, are beginning to find it far more difficult to find high quality day care.

The availability of child care that is reliable and convenient is essential if we are going to have opportunities for our children.

#### SUPPORT THE TERMINATION OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE

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

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be able to report to the people of eastern North Carolina that when it comes to providing real relief for the American taxpayer, this Congress is finally taking steps in the right direction.

Last week, the House passed an IRS reform bill giving taxpayers new and important protection in their dealings with the IRS. This legislation rep-

resents a significant step toward providing the American people with the relief they deserve from their unfair tax burden, but it is not enough. In order to truly act in the best interests of the taxpayers, this Congress should abolish the lengthy and complicated Tax Code and create a shorter, more concise Tax Code.

I urge my colleagues to continue to work for real tax reform and to support the termination of the Internal Revenue Code. Let us give the American people a simpler and fairer tax system. The taxpayers deserve relief.

#### CALLING FOR INVESTIGATION, NOT COMPENSATION, OF MEXICAN GOVERNMENT

(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, 80 percent of all drugs in America comes through Mexico. Heroin use by 12 to 17-year-olds is at a record level. Our border patrol agents are being shot at every day. Even the life of America's Drug Czar, General McCaffrey, has now been threatened by the Mexican drug cartel. And after all this, Mexican President Zedillo says he blames the drug problem on America and wants America to compensate Mexico for all of the garbage we are causing.

Unbelievable. Our borders are wide open, our kids are strung out, our prisons overloaded, and Mexico wants to be paid for it.

Beam me up. If this is a war on drugs, I am a fashion leader.

What is next, Mr. Speaker? Foreign aid for Saddam Hussein?

Do we have any brains left?

I say we should investigate the Mexican Government not compensate them.

#### TOWN MEETING TOPIC: UNFAIR ABUSE OF POWER BY IRS

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, the American people are willing to pay taxes, they are willing to pay their fair share, but what they are not willing to do is to pay unfair taxes. And, Mr. Speaker, as one of my colleagues mentioned just a few moments ago, we passed just this past week a bill to reform the IRS.

This Saturday, I along with many of my colleagues are holding open houses or town meetings. I am holding five in the 12th District in central New Jersey, and I hope that viewers from my district that may see this may call my office to participate, talk about what they view as unfair abuse of power that the IRS may have taken, and to seek my help in trying to cut through some redtape. I would encourage people to call my office, 908-284-1138.