

thousands of hours and tens of thousands of dollars, in many cases a year, on estate planning to forestall the selloff of that family farm or that small business which results in the loss of jobs back at home in our districts. This is time and money that would be far better spent on buying new equipment and expanding operations so new jobs and more jobs and better wages can be created.

Now as we continue this debate we cannot lose sight of the heavy costs that death taxes impose each and every year on our communities and our country. If we stress this enough here in Congress, hopefully the folks down at Treasury will finally open their eyes and ears to the real world.

JOIN IN COSPONSORING H.R. 14

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to once again encourage my colleagues to join as cosponsors of H.R. 14, the bill that a number of Democrats and Republicans introduced on the opening day, to put 14 percent as the top rate on capital gains. My friend from New York was just talking about the administration's opposition to dealing with our attempt to repeal the death tax. I am happy to say on capital gains, the job creation and savings encouragement measure, that we have an indication of some support coming from the White House.

I hope very much that we can move beyond our 130-plus Democrats and Republicans as cosponsors because reducing the top rate on capital gains will clearly create jobs, increase the flow of revenues to the Federal Treasury, and by \$1,500 a year increase the take-home pay for working Americans. Reducing the top rate on capital is in fact a family, permanent family tax cut, and I hope everyone will join in cosponsoring H.R. 14.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1274, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 127 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 127

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1274) to authorize appropriations for the National Institute of Standards and Technology for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consid-

eration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(l)(6) of rule XI are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. Each section of the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. (Mr. BURTON of Indiana). The gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Ms. SLAUGHTER], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, Mr. Speaker, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 127 is an open rule providing for the consideration of H.R. 1274, the National Institute of Standards Technology Authorization Act of 1997. The purpose of the legislation is to authorize appropriations for the National Institute of Standards and Technology for fiscal years 1998 and 1999. House Resolution 127 waives points of order against the consideration of the bill for failure to comply with the 3 day availability of committee reports rule. In addition the rule provides for 1 hour of general debate, to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science.

After general debate, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. Each section shall be considered as read. Further, the Chair would be authorized to grant priority in recognition to Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, the National Institute of Standards and Technology is the Nation's oldest Federal laboratory, serving as the Nation's dispute arbiter of standards in complex technologies. I look forward to an open and full debate and will defer to the Committee on Science for an indepth explanation as to the bill's merits and complexities. The Committee on Rules' hearing on this bill was extremely cordial and bipartisan, which I believe is an accurate reflection of the manner in which the Committee on Science handled this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the rule before us, I believe, is an exemplary rule, it is fair, it is completely open, and I would urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for yielding the customary 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I support this open rule which will allow us to consider H.R. 1274, the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act. NIST, as it is called is an essential institution because it works with the U.S. industries to develop and implement innovative technologies and electronics, supercomputers, and microwave communications for other agencies and private business.

H.R. 1274 includes two important programs which are not funded in last year's bill: the advanced technology program, ATP, and the manufacturing extension partnership. ATP encourages public-private cooperation in the development of technologies with broad application across industries. In my own district in upstate New York, ATP funds allow businesses like TROPEL Corp. and Eastman Kodak to produce new technologies that benefit our entire Nation. While I might have hoped for an authorization level closer to the President's request, I am encouraged that this year's bill does authorize ATP.

High technology of Rochester and another countless projects benefit from NIST's manufacturing extension program. This program helps small- and medium-sized manufacturing companies to utilize the technologies developed under the auspices of NIST. Manufacturing extension partnerships benefit all 50 States and Puerto Rico.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill which will continue authorization for the NIST, the Nation's oldest Federal laboratory. I hope they will join me in supporting this open rule.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on the rule.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I have no speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and

I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1273, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 126 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 126

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1273) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the National Science Foundation, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered by title rather than by section. Each title shall be considered as read. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida [Mr. DIAZ-BALART] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Ms. SLAUGHTER] pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 126 is an open rule providing for the consideration of House Resolution 1273, the National Science Foundation Act of 1997.

The purpose of this legislation is to authorize the activities of the National Science Foundation for the fiscal years 1998 and 1999. House Resolution 126 provides for 1 hour of general debate, to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science. After general debate, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. Each title shall be considered as read.

Further, the Chair will be authorized to grant priority in recognition to Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and the rule provides for one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

As is well known, Mr. Speaker, the National Science Foundation funds research and education activities in all fields of science and engineering at colleges and universities throughout the United States, and, Mr. Speaker, similar to the previous rule, the rule that we just adopted, this rule, 126, is open, and I urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support this open rule that will allow us to consider H.R. 1273, the National Science Foundation Authorization Act. The National Science Foundation contributes to the advancement of biological sciences, geosciences, mathematical and physical sciences, as well as scientific research and educational programs. In my own district of Rochester, NY, last year the NSF awarded \$13 million in grants to support both basic and scientific research and high-tech development. Ninety-six NSF grants enabled scientists in my district to pursue critical work and optical science and engineering, advanced manufacturing technologies and virtual reality programs which can replace the real world in testing and debugging a system.

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The NSF is the foundation for the countless scientific and technological advances that enable us to compete in the global economy.

We should pass this bill, which provides continued funding for the NSF. I urge my colleagues to support this open rule.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1275, CIVILIAN SPACE AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 1998 AND 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 128 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 128

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1275) to authorize appropriations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(l)(6) of rule XI are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Science now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered by title rather than by section. Each title shall be considered as read. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore [Mr. DUNCAN]. The gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HALL], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During the consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very simple resolution. The proposed rule is an open rule providing for 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Science. The resolution waives points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(L)(6) of rule XI. After general debate, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule. Furthermore,