

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.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 128 provides that the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered by title rather than by section. Moreover, the rule provides that the Chair may accord priority recognition to Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, at the conclusion of the 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. Finally, Mr. Speaker, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, under the proposed rule, each Member has an opportunity to have their concerns addressed, debated, and ultimately voted up or down by this body. House Resolution 128 was reported out of the Committee on Rules by a voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, the underlying legislation, H.R. 1275, the Civilian Space Authorization Act for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 is a bipartisan compromise that keeps the Nation's civilian space program on course.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the rule and the underlying legislation.

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] for yielding me this time. This is an open rule which will allow full and fair debate on H.R. 1275. This is a bill to reauthorize the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 1998 and 1999.

This bill is important to a lot of people, especially to my colleagues in the State of Ohio. My district is the home of the Wright Brothers and the birthplace of aviation, so Ohio is one of the top States for aerospace research through Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton and NASA Lewis Research Center in Cleveland.

The aerospace industry is estimated to employ nearly 300,000 workers in the State of Ohio and contributes nearly \$23 billion to the total economy of the State.

As my colleague from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] has described, this rule provides 1 hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Science.

Under the rule, amendments will be allowed under the 5-minute rule, the normal amending process in the House. All Members on both sides will have a chance and an opportunity to offer amendments. The rule does waive the

clause in the House rules requiring 3-day availability for committee reports. However, given the open process and bipartisan support behind this bill, the Committee on Rules did not consider this a problem. The Committee on Rules approves this open rule unanimously by a voice vote, and I would urge adoption of the open rule and the bill.

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

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question.

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. 1271, FAA RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997

Mr. LINDER. Madam Speaker, by the direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 125 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 125

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. 1271) to authorize the Federal Aviation Administration's research, engineering, and development programs for fiscal years 1998 through 2000, 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 section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 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. Points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. 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 (Mrs. MORELLA). The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LINDER] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINDER. Madam Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. FROST], 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.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 125 is an open rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1271, the Federal Aviation Administration Research Engineering and Development Authorization Act of 1997. This rule provides for 1 hour of general debate, divided equally between the chairman and the ranking minority of the Committee on Science. The rule also waives points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1997.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 125 makes in order the Committee on Science amendment in the nature of a substitute as an original bill for the purpose of amendment, with each section being considered as read. The rule waives points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

Madam Speaker, this rule continues an approach that has been used effectively in recent Congresses by according priority and recognition to Members who have preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The rule does not require preprinting but simply encourages Members to take advantage of the option in order to facilitate consideration of amendments on the floor and to inform Members of the details of pending amendments.

Finally, House Resolution 125 provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions, as is the right of the minority Members of the House.

Madam Speaker, this is a standard open rule, and the Committee on Rules has assured all Members who wish to modify the bill through the amendment process that they have every opportunity to offer their amendments.

Briefly, this legislation authorizes the Federal Aviation Administration's research, engineering and development programs for fiscal years 1998 through 2000. The bill provides important funding to enhance computer and information systems security for air traffic management to prioritize weather research projects and reduce delays in aircraft accidents and to develop new technologies that will ensure air safety.

I want to commend the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER], the chairman of the Committee on

Science, for crafting legislation that will ensure the preservation and security of the national aerospace system as we work to meet the increased air traffic demands that are expected in the next century.

H.R. 1271 was favorably reported out of the Committee on Science, as was the open rule by the Committee on Rules. I urge my colleagues to support the rule so that we may proceed with general debate in consideration of the merits of this very important bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FROST. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this open rule and I rise in support of H.R. 1271, the Federal Aviation Administration Research, Engineering and Development Authorization.

Madam Speaker, the Committee on Science is to be commended for sending this legislation to the full House for its consideration. This bill, along with the others the House will consider today, are examples of what can happen when a committee sits down to do its work and includes all of its members, majority as well as minority, in its deliberations. Reauthorization of the research and engineering activities of the Federal Aviation Administration is an important matter to all Americans and especially to the flying public.

This legislation enhances the activities of the FAA in four important areas: Capacity and air traffic management, weather, environment and energy, and innovation and cooperative research. The Science Committee has recommended funding priorities for the FAA in the next 2 fiscal years, and the open rule recommended by the Committee on Rules will allow the House to fully debate these priorities and the appropriate levels of funding.

Madam Speaker, this legislation reflects what the real work of the Congress is all about: Taking care of the Nation's business. H.R. 1271 is not a bill which will grab headlines or make bold political statements. Instead, it is legislation which reviews and renews the activities of the Federal Government, upon which the people of this country depend to ensure their safety.

The committee system has been used to its best advantage because of the cooperative spirit demonstrated by the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER], the chairman, and by the gentleman from California [Mr. BROWN], his ranking member. I commend them as well as the other members of the Committee on Science.

□ 1100

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

Mr. LINDER. Madam 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.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1031

Mr. FROST. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1031.

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

There was no objection.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 127 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1274.

□ 1101

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the 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, with Mr. DUNCAN in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER] and the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. GORDON] each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER].

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SENSENBRENNER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to present H.R. 1274, the National Institute of Standards and Technology Authorization Act of 1997.

I would like to thank and congratulate the subcommittee chairwoman, the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] and the ranking member, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. GORDON] for crafting such a fine bill.

H.R. 1274 authorizes all the programs under the Technology Administration in the Department of Commerce that require appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999. The Technology Administration includes the Office of the Under Secretary and the Office of Technology Policy in NIST, which is responsible for the vast majority of programs that make up the Technology Administration.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 1274 is a fiscally responsible bill. It authorizes \$609 million for fiscal 1998, a decrease of over \$92 million, or 13 percent from the administration's request.

In fiscal year 1999 the bill authorizes a total of \$628 million, again \$116 mil-

lion or 16 percent below the administration's projected budget.

While spending less than the administration requested, the bill manages to do more. In authorizing NIST programs, the bill prioritizes funding for NIST laboratory functions, increasing their funding by 5 percent for fiscal 1998 and 3 percent for fiscal 1999, while reducing funding for lower priority programs such as the advanced technology program, and providing no funding for new administration initiatives such as the experimental program to stimulate competitive technology, or EPSCOT, for short.

Specifically, the bill authorizes \$278.6 million for NIST laboratory activities in fiscal 1998 and \$286.9 million in fiscal 1999. The NIST laboratories have been called the crown jewel of the Technology Administration, and H.R. 1274 will help ensure that they have sufficient funding to continue their vital work of safeguarding the accuracy of standards necessary for domestic and international commerce.

H.R. 1274 includes \$117.8 million for the manufacturing extension program in fiscal 1998 and \$111.3 million in fiscal 1999. These totals will allow for full funding of all 75 existing MEP centers and will cover the administrative costs associated with running the program.

The bill also reforms and authorizes reduced funding for ATP in fiscal 1998 and fiscal 1999. ATP is authorized at \$185 million in 1998 and \$150 million in fiscal 1999. These levels represent decreases of \$40 million and \$75 million, respectively, from the fiscal year 1997 appropriated total of \$225 million. The bill further reforms the program's match requirements, requiring a 60 percent match from all joint venture grant recipients and non-small business single awardees.

To ensure that ATP grants are not simply displacing private capital, the bill also contains language requiring a review of ATP applications to ensure that an ATP grant is actually required in order to enable the project to go forward.

Finally, the bill authorizes funding for NIST critical maintenance and construction needs for fiscal 1998 and fiscal 1999. In order to ensure that construction funding is used in the most appropriate manner, H.R. 1274 includes a certification requirement precluding the Department from obligating any money to new construction unless it meets the requirements of NIST's new facilities plan.

Accordingly, the authorization language includes provisions to reduce scientific research earmarks, to require the Committee on Science to receive notice of any reprogramming of NIST funds, and to express the sense of Congress that NIST should address the year 2000 computer date field program.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 1274 is a sound bill. It is fiscally responsible, and will help ensure that NIST programs, which