

We in Congress must work to provide these important protective features to users of the national information infrastructure as educators work to assist us in guiding our children successfully toward the 21st century job marketplace.

I believe that we should not cease from searching for additional innovative ways to protect our children as we also work to provide them with the much needed skills for today and tomorrow.

It is a fact that by the close of this century 60 percent of the new jobs will require computer skills that are currently held by only 20 percent of our population. The work we do today will pay off for our children.

From Alabama to Wyoming the NetDay organization has many places it can call home. In the State of Alaska, the Anchorage School District reports that 70 percent of Alaska's students wired several schools as part of NetDay.

In the State of California, the launching site for the entire national NetDay effort, over 75,000 volunteers wired over 3,500 schools last fall.

While in the State of Texas 100 schools were wired, the majority of which were in the city of Houston, TX. We need more activity in the entire State of Texas, as well as all over America.

It is evident from our first NetDay year that States have garnered varying degrees of success in their NetDay efforts. We still have a lot of work to do before every school is connected to the Internet.

As a parent and a Member of Congress, I will continue to work toward a safe and secure Internet environment in which we can provide educational opportunities for our children. That means also working to deny the proponents of pornography and obscene material from having access to our children using the internet.

I believe this important resolution will go a long way in communicating the important role the NetDay organization is playing in the promotion of universal access to the information superhighway for all of our Nation's children.

It is good that we, as Members of the House of Representatives, can show our whole hearted support for the NetDay organization, which has provided and should provide access for all children; rural, suburban, and urban, regardless of whether they are poor or well off. Yes, NetDay has proven it is possible to be inclusive when implementing private and public partnerships of this magnitude.

I would like to thank my colleagues who have signed on as original cosponsors of this resolution. I thank you for your commitment to our Nation's children, and I look forward with great anticipation, as many of you do, to the NetDay '97 events.

At this time I would like to read the resolution into the RECORD.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, NetDay is a tremendous opportunity to ensure that all of our children will be able to compete in the high-technology world of tomorrow. I would like to commend NetDay and its organizers for the tremendous efforts that they have made in the last year to wire all of our Nation's schools to the information superhighway. Through NetDay, 20 percent of U.S. schools were wired to the Internet in 1996 alone. Almost every community in the country, including my own, have been able to reap the benefits of this organization.

NetDay is the perfect partnership between businesses, government, educational institu-

tions, and local communities that provides ongoing support for our schools. NetDay is made possible through the technical support of companies such as IBM, and Bell Atlantic who provide the technical skill to wire schools, financial sponsors who purchase the wiring packages for classrooms, and thousands of volunteers who give up their evenings and weekends for our children. This effort demonstrates the powerful impact that voluntarism can have on our community. Usually, connecting a classroom to the Internet costs approximately \$1,000. NetDay has been able to bring this cost below \$400.

The Internet is transforming the way we live, communicate, study, and conduct business. On the Internet, the educational opportunities that are open to our children are limited only by their own imagination. Students can browse a library in Europe as easily as they can browse one just down the hall. More importantly, resources which were once only available to affluent suburban schools can now be accessed by students in remote rural areas or poor inner city areas. In the future, our children's access to the information superhighway will not only be a determining factor in whether or not America can remain competitive, but whether we will truly be able to remain the indispensable Nation.

President Clinton has set a goal of wiring every school in the country to the Internet by the year 2000. Thanks to service organizations such as NetDay, and similar smaller programs throughout the country, we are well on our way to achieving that goal.

MORE ON NETDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. Owens] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, what I am trying to say is that the spirit of NetDay must be kept alive. The spirit of last night's thundering applause for the President when he spoke on education must be kept alive. We cannot do that unless we recognize there are some hard problems that must be overcome. The President's program on construction and repair is a vital part of being able to wire the schools. You cannot have the telecommunications, which will benefit schools greatly.

It will allow schools to expand beyond books and pencil and paper and the limitations and get into what our young people are already into. They look at television a great deal. They look at videos. Are they going to respond to teaching that is done using the techniques that they are aware of and exposed to in their environment outside the schools?

One important part of it is to pass the President's initiative on school construction. He has an initiative which calls for up to 50 percent interest subsidy for new school construction and renovation. He has another initiative which calls for \$20 billion in school construction spurred by \$5 billion in Federal jump-start funding over 4 years, which will be discussed at greater length in the future.

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But that is absolutely necessary for the telecommunications movement to go forward that is encouraged by NetDay to take place.

There is another item that you must all be alerted to: the education rate for telecommunications services; affordable access for all schools and libraries. This Congress in 1996 passed a telecommunications bill which the President signed into law on February 8, 1996. The President signed this law which reformed the Nation's telecommunications laws that will increase competition and lower prices for all consumers, including libraries and schools.

In this law was a mandate from Congress which said that the FCC had to find ways to give discounts or special consideration to libraries and schools in providing telecommunication services. On November 7, 1996, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service unanimously recommended that schools and libraries receive discounts for telecommunications services, Internet services and internal connections.

The recommendations call for discounts that range from 20 to 90 percent, with an average discount of 60 percent. The FCC has until May 1997 to develop the rules for implementing the recommendations of the joint board.

What am I talking about? I am saying that in the poorest schools and rural areas and in inner-city communities the poorest schools may get up to a 90 percent discount, 90 percent on their telephone bill, on their bill for Internet on-line services, on the initial connecting bills. It may happen if the FCC follows through on the recommendations that have already been received.

I think everybody should write to the FCC or should write to the telecommunications company and thank them for cooperating and understanding that we cannot go forward with the education of all Americans unless we have this kind of provision which lowers the cost of telecommunications services for all schools.

It is very important that we support the recommendations from the Federal-State joint board because the FCC has until May to develop the rules and vote on these rules.

Please understand that the spirit of NetDay that the gentlewoman from Texas, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, has put forth so appropriately, the spirit of NetDay should go forward in many ways, but one way we can carry the spirit of NetDay forward is by letting the FCC know that we want the recommendation for the 20 to 90 percent discount on telecommunication services to be passed as rapidly as possible.

The schools which you need to help most, the poorest schools in the United States, are the schools which have the most difficult problems in teaching. They will not be able to benefit from

the technological revolution, they will not be able to benefit from the new telecommunications that will be available unless they have some way to solve the problem of the operations cost. The operations cost.

Most schools do not have telephones, you know. I mean, they have a limited number of telephones. In New York we have a school serving 2,000 youngsters that may have 5 or 6 telephones. A telephone should be in every classroom because we have been aware of telephone technology for a long time. There are thousands of ways telephones can be used to improve the operation of the schools and the operation of the structure, but even that is not there. Before you get to videotapes and television sets and the Internet and the computers, we need the telephone.

We can take a giant step forward by understanding that the universal fund that the FCC is now considering should be supported, and immediately; in the spirit of NetDay, we can go forward to try to convince the telecommunications companies to also support the FCC recommendation for a 20 to 90 percent discount on telecommunication services.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, 105TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. SHUSTER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with clause 2(a) of rule XI of the rules of the House, I am submitting for printing in the RECORD a copy of the rules of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the 105th Congress, adopted on January 8, 1997.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(Adopted January 8, 1997)

RULE I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) *Applicability of House Rules.*—(1) The Rules of the House are the rules of the Committee and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable motions of high privilege in the Committee and its subcommittees.

(2) Each subcommittee is part of the Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and its rules so far as applicable.

(3) Rule XI of the Rules of the House, which pertains entirely to Committee procedure, is incorporated and made a part of the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(b) *Authority to Conduct Investigations.*—The Committee is authorized at any time to conduct such investigations and studies as it may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities under Rule X of the Rules of the House and (subject to the adoption of expense resolutions as required by Rule XI, clause 5 of the Rules of the

House) to incur expenses (including travel expenses) in connection therewith.

(c) *Authority to Print.*—The Committee is authorized to have printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection with any meeting or hearing of the Committee shall be paid from applicable accounts of the House described in clause 1(h)(1) of Rule X of the Rules of the House.

(d) *Activities Report.*—(1) The Committee shall submit to the House, not later than January 2 of each odd-numbered year, a report on the activities of the Committee under Rules X and XI of the Rules of the House during the Congress ending on January 3 of such year.

(2) Such report shall include separate sections summarizing the legislative and oversight activities of the Committee during that Congress.

(3) The oversight section of such report shall include a summary of the oversight plans submitted by the Committee pursuant to clause 2(d) of Rule X of the Rules of the House, a summary of the actions taken and recommendations made with respect to each such plan, and a summary of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the Committee, and any recommendations made or actions taken thereon.

(e) *Publication of Rules.*—The Committee's rules shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE II.—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

(a) *Regular Meetings.*—Regular meetings of the Committee shall be held on the first Wednesday of every month to transact its business unless such day is a holiday, or the House is in recess or is adjourned, in which case the Chairman shall determine the regular meeting day of the Committee for that month. The Chairman shall give each member of the Committee, as far in advance of the day of the regular meeting as the circumstances make practicable, a written notice of such meeting and the matters to be considered at such meeting. If the Chairman believes that the Committee will not be considering any bill or resolution before the full Committee and that there is no other business to be transacted at a regular meeting, the meeting may be canceled or it may be deferred until such time as, in the judgment of the Chairman, there may be matters which require the Committee's consideration. This paragraph shall not apply to meetings of any subcommittee.

(b) *Additional Meetings.*—The Chairman may call and convene, as he or she considers necessary, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other committee business. The Committee shall meet for such purpose pursuant to the call of the Chairman.

(c) *Special Meetings.*—If at least three members of the Committee desire that a special meeting of the Committee be called by the Chairman, those members may file in the offices of the Committee their written request to the Chairman for that special meeting. Such request shall specify the measure or matter to be considered. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chairman of the filing of the request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of the request, the Chairman does not call the requested special meeting to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the Committee may file in the offices of the Committee their written notice that a special meeting of the Commit-

tee will be held, specifying the date and hour thereof, and the measure or matter to be considered at that special meeting. The Committee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the clerk of the Committee shall notify all members of the Committee that such meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered; and only the measure or matter specified in that notice may be considered at that special meeting.

(d) *Vice Chairman.*—The Chairman shall appoint a vice chairman of the Committee and of each subcommittee. If the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee is not present at any meeting of the Committee or subcommittee, as the case may be, the vice chairman shall preside. If the vice chairman is not present, the ranking member of the majority party on the Committee or subcommittee who is present shall preside at that meeting.

(e) *Prohibition on Sitting During Joint Session.*—The Committee may not sit during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and Senate is in progress.

(f) *Addressing the Committee.*—(1) A Committee member may address the Committee or a subcommittee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration or may question a witness at a hearing—

(A) only when recognized by the Chairman for that purpose; and

(B) subject to subparagraphs (2) and (3), only for 5 minutes until such time as each member of the Committee or subcommittee who so desires has had an opportunity to address the Committee or subcommittee or question the witness.

A member shall be limited in his or her remarks to the subject matter under consideration. The Chairman shall enforce this subparagraph.

(2) The Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, or the Committee or subcommittee by motion, may permit an equal number of majority and minority party members each to question a witness for a specified period not longer than 30 minutes.

(3) The Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, with the concurrence of the ranking minority member, or the Committee or subcommittee by motion, may permit committee staff for majority and minority party members to question a witness for equal specified periods.

(4) Nothing in subparagraph (2) or (3) affects the right of a Member (other than a member designated under subparagraph (2)) to question a witness for 5 minutes in accordance with subparagraph (2) or (3).

(g) *Meetings to Begin Promptly.*—Each meeting or hearing of the Committee shall begin promptly at the time so stipulated in the public announcement of the meeting or hearing.

RULE III.—OPEN MEETINGS AND HEARINGS; BROADCASTING

(a) *Open Meetings.*—Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, and each hearing of the Committee or a subcommittee shall be open to the public, except as provided by clause 2(g) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(b) *Broadcasting.*—Whenever a meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or a hearing is open to the public, that meeting or hearing shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with clause 3 of Rule XI of the Rules of the House.

RULE IV.—RECORDS AND ROLL CALLS

(a) *Keeping of Records.*—The Committee shall keep a complete record of all Committee action which shall include—