

Chenoweth	Hastings (WA)	Moran (VA)	Stump	Tierney	Watts (OK)
Christensen	Hayworth	Morella	Stupak	Torres	Waxman
Clay	Hefner	Myrick	Sununu	Towns	Weldon (FL)
Clayton	Herger	Nadler	Talent	Traficant	Weldon (PA)
Clement	Hill	Neal	Tanner	Turner	Weller
Clyburn	Hilleary	Nethercutt	Tauscher	Upton	Wexler
Coble	Hilliard	Neumann	Tauzin	Velazquez	White
Coburn	Hinchey	Ney	Taylor (MS)	Vento	Whitfield
Collins	Hinojosa	Northup	Taylor (NC)	Visclosky	Wicker
Combest	Hobson	Norwood	Thomas	Walsh	Wise
Condit	Holden	Nussle	Thompson	Wamp	Wolf
Conyers	Hooley	Oberstar	Thune	Waters	Wynn
Cook	Horn	Obey	Thurman	Watkins	Yates
Cooksey	Houghton	Olver	Tiahrt	Watt (NC)	Young (FL)
Costello	Hoyer	Ortiz			
Coyne	Hulshof	Owens			
Cramer	Hunter	Oxley	Barr	Johnson, Sam	Petri
Crapo	Hutchinson	Packard	Campbell	Kennedy (MA)	Roemer
Cubin	Hyde	Pallone	Cox	Kennedy (RI)	Rohrabacher
Cummings	Inglis	Pappas	Crane	Kingston	Royce
Cunningham	Jackson (IL)	Parker	Doggett	Klug	Salmon
Danner	Jackson-Lee	Pascrell	Duncan	Largent	Sanford
Davis (FL)	(TX)	Pastor	Filner	Markey	Scarborough
Davis (IL)	Jefferson	Paxon	Heffley	McIntosh	Sensenbrenner
Davis (VA)	Jenkins	Payne	Hoekstra	Miller (FL)	Thornberry
Deal	John	Pease	Hostettler	Minge	
DeFazio	Johnson (CT)	Pelosi	Istook	Paul	
DeGette	Johnson (WI)	Peterson (MN)			
Delahunt	Johnson, E. B.	Peterson (PA)			
DeLauro	Jones	Pickering	Murtha	Solomon	Woolsey
DeLay	Kanjorski	Pickett	Schiff	Weygand	Young (AK)
Dellums	Kaptur	Pitts			
Deutsch	Kasich	Pombo			
Diaz-Balart	Kelly	Pomeroy			
Dickey	Kennelly	Porter			
Dicks	Kildee	Portman			
Dingell	Kilpatrick	Poshard			
Dixon	Kim	Price (NC)			
Dooley	Kind (WI)	Pryce (OH)			
Doolittle	King (NY)	Quinn			
Doyle	Kleczka	Radanovich			
Dreier	Klink	Rahall			
Dunn	Knollenberg	Ramstad			
Edwards	Kolbe	Rangel			
Ehlers	Kucinich	Redmond			
Ehrlich	LaFalce	Regula			
Emerson	LaHood	Reyes			
Engel	Lampson	Riggs			
English	Lantos	Riley			
Ensign	Latham	Rivers			
Eshoo	LaTourette	Rodriguez			
Etheridge	Lazio	Rogan			
Evans	Leach	Rogers			
Everett	Levin	Ros-Lehtinen			
Ewing	Lewis (CA)	Rothman			
Farr	Lewis (GA)	Roukema			
Fattah	Lewis (KY)	Royal-Allard			
Fawell	Linder	Rush			
Fazio	Lipinski	Ryun			
Flake	Livingston	Sabo			
Foglietta	LoBiondo	Sanchez			
Foley	Lofgren	Sanders			
Forbes	Lowey	Sandlin			
Ford	Lucas	Sawyer			
Fowler	Luther	Saxton			
Fox	Maloney (CT)	Schaefer, Dan			
Frank (MA)	Maloney (NY)	Schaffer, Bob			
Franks (NJ)	Manton	Schumer			
Frelinghuysen	Manzullo	Scott			
Frost	Martinez	Serrano			
Furse	Mascara	Sessions			
Galllegly	Matsui	Shadegg			
Ganske	McCarthy (MO)	Shaw			
Gejdenson	McCarthy (NY)	Shays			
Gekas	McCullum	Sherman			
Gephhardt	McCrary	Shimkus			
Gibbons	McDade	Shuster			
Gilchrest	McDermott	Sisisky			
Gillmor	McGovern	Skaggs			
Gilman	McHale	Skeen			
Gonzalez	McHugh	Skelton			
Goode	McInnis	Slaughter			
Goodlatte	McIntyre	Smith (MI)			
Goodling	McKeon	Smith (NJ)			
Gordon	McKinney	Smith (OR)			
Goss	McNulty	Smith (TX)			
Graham	Meehan	Smith, Adam			
Granger	Meek	Smith, Linda			
Green	Menendez	Snowbarger			
Greenwood	Metcalf	Snyder			
Gutierrez	Mica	Souder			
Gutknecht	Millender-McDonald	Spence			
Hall (OH)	Miller (CA)	Spratt			
Hall (TX)	Mink	Stabenow			
Hamilton	Moakley	Stark			
Hansen	Molinari	Stearns			
Harman	Mollohan	Stenholm			
Hastert	Moran	Stokes			
Hastings (FL)	Moran (KS)	Strickland			

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1853, CARL D. PERKINS VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1997

Mr. McINNIS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-187) on the resolution (H. Res. 187) providing for consideration of

the bill (H.R. 1853) to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON H.R. 2169, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. WOLF, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-188) on the bill (H.R. 2169) making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to announce that there will be no further votes tonight. We will do general debate only tonight, and I expect to be back on this bill tomorrow. I will shortly be asking unanimous consent to stack votes beginning tomorrow so that we will have the hope of finishing this bill before we leave tomorrow evening, and I repeat, we are only going to do general debate; no more votes, no amendments will be considered tonight.

REQUEST TO POSTPONE RECORDED VOTES DURING CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2160, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during the consideration of H.R. 2160, that on Thursday, July 17, or any day thereafter, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment and that the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may reduce to not less than 5 minutes the time for voting by electronic device on any postponed question that immediately follows another vote by electronic device without intervening business, provided that the time for voting by electronic device on the first in any series of questions shall not be less than 15 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I understand the gentleman from New Mexico is making

a unanimous consent request to roll votes tomorrow.

Let me simply say that at this point I am not at liberty to accede to that request. I would urge the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. SKEEN] to withdraw the request, and perhaps we will be in a position tomorrow when we convene to accede to that request. Right now I have a number of problems on my side of the aisle that will prevent us from agreeing to it at this time.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that, and I am in total sympathy with it, but I think at least we can do the colloquies tonight and get those out of the way so that we can get to the substance matter. If the gentleman from Wisconsin would agree to that, I will appreciate it.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I do not understand what the gentleman is suggesting there.

Mr. SKEEN. If the gentleman would continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, we will withdraw that unanimous-consent request, and do general debate, and end it there then.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, perhaps we will be able to agree to the request tomorrow.

□ 2000

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill (H.R. 2160) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2160) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes; and pending that, I ask unanimous consent that the general debate be limited to not to exceed 1 hour, the time to be equally divided and controlled by the gentle-

woman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] and myself.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Mexico.

The motion was agreed to.

□ 2000

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. 2160), with Mr. LINDER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

By unanimous consent, the bill was considered as having been read the first time.

The CHAIRMAN. Under the unanimous-consent agreement, the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. SKEEN] and the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. SKEEN].

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

Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer the fiscal year 1998 appropriations bill for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and related agencies. The bill totals \$13,651,000,000 in discretionary spending and \$39,796,855,000 in mandatory spending for a total of \$49,447,051,000. This bill meets both the discretionary allocation of \$13,650,196,000 and its outlay allocation of \$13,967,000,000.

Mr. Chairman, this bill is the result of 13 days of hearings from mid-February through mid-March. The subcommittee took testimony from 252 witnesses, including 20 Members of Congress. We marked it up in subcommittee on June 25 and in full committee on July 9.

While our allocation was larger than last year, this bill spends about \$424 million less than the administration requested. There are only a few significant increases in the bill: WIC, rural water and housing, FDA, and meat and poultry inspection. Most of the programs are reduced or frozen at the 1997 level.

This is a good bill and a responsible bill. I want to remind all my colleagues that this legislation pays for critical programs that benefit us and every one of our constituents every day of their lives, no matter what part of this great country they live in. At the same time, it spends carefully and fulfills our obligation to move towards a balanced budget.

Mr. Chairman I want to express my appreciation to the committee members and the staff, and particularly to the gentlewoman who is the ranking member, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR], who has been a great help to me. We have a great team going, I think, on this particular bill.

We have our differences once in a while, but they are mild compared to

some we have heard in the earlier testimony before from this chair. So I want to thank all those folks who make this thing a reality, and for the hard work they do and the tremendous amount of time they put in.

Mr. Chairman, this bill represents a lot of hard work and contribution by both the Democratic and Republican Members. I believe it deserves strong support from both sides of the aisle. I have not asked for a rule on this bill because I want my colleagues to have a chance to discuss and debate any issues which they believe are important.

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

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

Mr. Chairman, I rise this evening to commend our chair, the gentleman from New Mexico [Mr. SKEEN], an outstanding Member of this House to work with; all of the members of our subcommittee and the committee staff, for their wonderful leadership in putting together a solid bill. It will help keep our Nation at the leading edge for food, fiber, fuel, and forest production, as well as research, trade, and food and drug safety.

There is no question that agriculture is America's lead industry. Our farmers and our agricultural industries remain the most productive in the world, and they well understand, as we do, how difficult it is to maintain our Nation's commitment to excellence in agriculture in tight budgetary times.

Our bill appropriates \$3.7 billion or 7 percent less than last year's budget, and \$2.8 billion less or 5 percent less than the amount requested by the administration. Over two-thirds of the bill's spending is dedicated to mandatory programs, largely nutrition programs like the school breakfast and lunch programs and the Food Stamp Program, which comprise nearly 70 percent of the funding in this bill.

The committee provided \$35.8 billion in mandatory programs, which is a decrease of \$4.3 billion below the amount available for fiscal year 1997, and \$2.4 billion below the budget request.

The bill includes a total of \$13.65 billion for discretionary programs, which is \$599 million more than the amount appropriated in the last fiscal year, and \$424 million less than the budget request.

Mr. Chairman, those who serve farmers and work with agriculture are taught over and over again that there is a big difference between money and wealth. Our job on this Committee on Agriculture is to help create the wealth of America through the investments that we make in food, fiber, fuel, and forestry, all essential components of production agriculture.

Market-oriented farm policy means farming for the market, not the Government, and requires investments in research, some of it high risk, in conservation, in sustainability, in education and technology transfer, which will keep agriculture competitive as we move into the new century.