

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1997 TO FILE PRIVILEGED REPORT ON TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations may have until midnight Tuesday, August 5, 1997 to file a privileged report on a bill making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All points of order are reserved on the bill.

CONGRATULATING INDIA AND PAKISTAN ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on International Relations be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 157) congratulating the people of India and Pakistan on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their nations' independence, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I do not intend to object, but under my reservation I yield to the gentleman from New York to explain the resolution.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER], the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, has sponsored this timely resolution, and I welcome his support at this very timely moment.

It is indeed a matter to celebrate when two of the largest democracies in the world, both India and Pakistan, reach their 50th anniversary of independence. In particular, India has had a continuous 50-year tradition of democracy and rule of law and great respect for religious freedom. We very much agree that we look forward to broadening and deepening the United States cooperation and friendship with both nations in the years to come.

Finally, one of the clauses of this resolution notes that the House plans to send a delegation to attend the independence celebrations. It is going to be my honor to lead such a delegation,

and I look forward to being able to call to the attention of the House the fact that this resolution was fully agreed to in the House in such a timely manner.

We congratulate both India and Pakistan on their 50th anniversaries of their independence, and I thank the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER] for bringing this matter before us at this time.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman.

Under my reservation, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE].

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Nebraska as well. I thank him for his kindness.

Mr. Speaker, sometimes we tend to give credit to the youth, to what is young. I think it is so very important to acknowledge Pakistan and India for 50 years of democracy. I know the gentleman from New York Chairman GILMAN has been a strong stalwart around this Nation in advocating the understanding of world affairs and applauding our neighbors for them upholding democracy.

Here we have two very fine nations that will celebrate 50 years. I want my colleagues to know that I may not be in India or Pakistan, I am not sure, but I will be celebrating with those citizens of that origin here in this Nation if I am not, and I will be gratified to be with them, because they set a very fine example for what can be, no matter how large a country you might be, that every individual is valued and democracy is valued.

I am proud to be of this Nation, that for the longest period of time has claimed itself as a free and democratic Nation, and I am very happy today to be able to extend my hand of friendship, applause, to both of these gentlemen for raising up this honor of these two very fine nations. They have been democratic, they continue to work for democracy, and they continue to work to have a free society for their people.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments. Under my reservation, I would like to continue very briefly.

America's relations with India are strong and are improving, and has in recent years experienced extraordinarily successful elections. The social and economic progress it has achieved in the last five decades is truly remarkable, and it has laid a foundation, a strong one, for India's future. The United States and India have developed into important trading partners. Indian-Americans are making enormous contributions to both countries.

Similarly, Pakistan is an extremely important friend to the United States. Pakistan's commitment to democracy was most recently evidenced in the February 1997 elections, which brought about a change of government. Pakistani-Americans have also made major contributions to American society, and

our relationship has proven mutually beneficial.

It is this Member's understanding that the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman of the Committee on International Relations, will be leading a delegation to India and Pakistan in the coming month, in part to celebrate this momentous occasion. Such a delegation is appropriate and timely, and this Member certainly congratulates the chairman on his decision to lead such an important delegation.

The resolution itself calls for an official appointed House delegation to visit the two countries within the next anniversary year.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 157 is a bipartisan effort sponsored by this Member, the distinguished ranking Democrat on the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, the gentleman from California, Mr. BERMAN, the distinguished chairman of the committee on International Relations, Mr. GILMAN, and the ranking Democrat of the Committee on International Relations, Mr. HAMILTON, as well as distinguished members from the House leadership, the gentleman from Georgia, Mr. GINGRICH, House Speaker; and the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. BONIOR, the Democratic whip.

I would urge and expect to have support for this resolution.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will continue to yield under his reservation, I just want to thank the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER] for his supporting remarks and for sponsoring this measure. I also thank the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] for her support of this measure and for her kind remarks.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 157

Whereas in August 1947 the people of Pakistan and India gained their independence from the British;

Whereas the people of India, Pakistan, and the United States have a common interest in the promotion and preservation of democratic systems of government;

Whereas since independence in 1947 the people of India have maintained the world's largest democracy, one that serves as an inspiration for people throughout the world;

Whereas in recent years the people of Pakistan have reasserted their own strong commitment to building and sustaining a democratic system of government;

Whereas, in addition to democracy, the people of Pakistan, India, and the United States have had many shared values and interests over the past fifty years, including the desire to promote the peaceful development of the South Asian region;

Whereas Indian and Pakistani citizens, who have visited or lived in the United States, and United States citizens, who have visited or lived in India and Pakistan, have done much to improve mutual understanding and build friendship over the past fifty years;

Whereas United States citizens of Pakistani or Indian origin have contributed greatly to the advancement of knowledge, the development of the United States economy, and the enrichment of cultural life in the United States;

Whereas the ties of trade and investment among the United States, India, and Pakistan have grown over fifty years to the great benefit of the people of all three countries; and

Whereas the fiftieth anniversary of the independence of Pakistan and India offers an opportunity for India, Pakistan, and the United States to renew their commitment to international cooperation on issues of mutual interest and concern: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the people of India and Pakistan on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of their nations' independence;

(2) looks forward to broadening and deepening United States cooperation and friendship with Pakistan and India in the years ahead for the benefit of the people of all three countries; and

(3) intends to send a delegation to India and Pakistan during this 50th anniversary year of independence to further enhance the mutual understanding among the United States, Pakistan, and India and among the United States Congress and the parliaments of those countries.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 157.

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

There was no objection.

CORRECTING ERRORS IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2014, TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1997

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 138) to correct technical errors in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 2014, and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the concurrent resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 138

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 2014), to provide for reconciliation pursuant to subsections (b)(2) and (d) of section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1998, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) In the amendment proposed to be added by section 1085(c), strike "section 407(d)" and insert "paragraph (4) or (7) of section 407(d)".

(2) Strike subparagraph (B) of section 1031(e)(2) and insert the following:

"(B) TREATMENT OF AMOUNTS PAID FOR TICKETS PURCHASED BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1997.—The amendments made by subsection (c) shall not apply to amounts paid before October 1, 1997; except that—

"(i) the amendment made to section 4261(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall apply to amounts paid more than 7 days after the date of the enactment of this Act for transportation beginning on or after October 1, 1997, and

"(ii) the amendment made to section 4263(c) of such Code shall apply to the extent related to taxes imposed under the amendment made to such section 4261(c) on the amounts described in clause (i)."

Mr. ARCHER (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARCHER] is recognized for 1 hour.

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

This enrolling resolution would make two corrections in the tax bill which just passed the House of Representatives, and that is H.R. 2014. The first correction would revise section 1085(c) to cover work experience and community service employment, but not subsidize private sector jobs.

Let me explain why this correction is necessary. The conference agreement intended to prohibit the payment of the earned income tax credit to TANF recipients who were participating in workfare or community service jobs. However, the bill language denies the EITC to individuals in subsidized private employment or on-the-job training where the employer receives wage subsidy funds from the State that are financed by the TAIF funds, as well as to individuals in welfare or community service jobs. This problem appears to have stemmed from the fact that the drafters did not find a definition of the term "workfare," in title IV-A. So they swept in a wide array of work activities, including subsidized private sector employment, and this concurrent resolution would put in place the intent of what Congress was acting to do.

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The second correction would revise section 1031 of H.R. 2014 to delay the effective date of certain advance ticket purchases for air transportation beginning after September 30, 1997. The correction is needed to allow the airlines enough time to reprogram their computers for the new ticket pricing system as contained in H.R. 2014.

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

Mr. ARCHER. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I would ask the gentleman, I assume these corrections have been cleared with the ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means?

Mr. ARCHER. I understand that they have. The gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] has approved these corrections.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). Is there objection to the initial request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 138

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 2014), to provide for reconciliation pursuant to subsections (b)(2) and (d) of section 105 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 1998, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) In the amendment proposed to be added by section 1085(c), strike "section 407(d)" and insert "paragraph (4) or (7) of section 407(d)".

(2) Strike subparagraph (B) of section 1031(e)(2) and insert the following:

"(B) TREATMENT OF AMOUNTS PAID FOR TICKETS PURCHASED BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1997.—The amendments made by subsection (c) shall not apply to amounts paid before October 1, 1997; except that—

"(i) the amendment made to section 4261(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall apply to amounts paid more than 7 days after the date of the enactment of this Act for transportation beginning on or after October 1, 1997, and

"(ii) the amendment made to section 4263(c) of such Code shall apply to the extent related to taxes imposed under the amendment made to such section 4261(c) on the amounts described in clause (i)."

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING MEXICO'S ANTIDUMPING DUTIES

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Ways and Means be discharged from further consideration of the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 43) urging the United States Trade Representative immediately to take all appropriate action with regards to Mexico's imposition of antidumping duties on United States high fructose corn syrup, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

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

Mr. EWING. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. CRANE].

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, Senate Concurrent Resolution 43 expresses the sense of Congress that the government of Mexico should review carefully whether it initiated an anti-dumping investigation against United States exports of high fructose corn syrup in conformity with WTO standards. It urges the United States Trade Representative to take all appropriate measures with regard to the imposition of preliminary anti-dumping duties on U.S. exports of high fructose corn syrup.