



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 143

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1997

No. 2

House of Representatives

The House met at 12 noon.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Let our prayers of thanksgiving, O God, rise as incense to the heavens as we express our gratitude for all Your wondrous blessings. May Your good words of peace, of reconciliation, of faithfulness echo in our hearts and in our lives.

On this day we remember those men and women who have dedicated themselves to public service, who use their abilities as leaders in doing the works of righteousness and justice for all people. We pray, almighty God, that You would bless their efforts as they seek to demonstrate anew the strength that comes when people join in a vision that unites each person for the common good.

May Your peace, O God, that You freely give to us in the depths of our hearts, be with us this day and every day, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. KILDEE] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KILDEE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. JIM BUNNING, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JIM BUNNING, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 8, 1997.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you that I consider my service as a member of the Ethics Committee complete.

Best personal regards,

JIM BUNNING,
Member of Congress.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 4(e)(3) of rule X, I hereby appoint the Honorable LAMAR SMITH of Texas to fill a vacancy on the Select Committee on Ethics.

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS
TO OMNIBUS CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I offer a joint resolution (H.J. Res. 25) making technical corrections to the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1997 (Public Law 104-208), and for other purposes, and I ask unanimous consent that the House immediately consider and pass the joint resolution.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

Mr. OBEY. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to object, but I simply do so to enable the gentleman from Louisiana to explain his request.

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

Mr. OBEY. I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I will be happy to explain the changes to the fiscal year 1997 Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act proposed in the joint resolution that is the object of my unanimous-consent request.

As the gentleman will recall, one of the last actions of the 104th Congress was to pass this Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act. Back in late September, even though we were intensely negotiating for several consecutive days almost around the clock, we were running out of time before the new fiscal year began. We were rushing to complete our work. In this rush, several errors and omissions were made during the bill preparation so that what was signed into law did not reflect the actual agreement on this bill in a few instances.

The bill was hand enrolled and was over 8 inches thick, plus another 4 inches for the Statement of Managers. During the preparation and reproduction of the bill, one page was omitted in the copy that became law. This bill had 1,929 pages, and the Statement of Managers had nearly 1,000 pages. While it is unfortunate that this type of error occurred, considering the sheer volume of the bill and the time we had to put it together, I think we did a pretty good job. Section 1 of this joint resolution inserts the matter that was inadvertently dropped.

Sections 2 and 3 deal with correcting text that did not reflect agreement on the bill. These drafting errors resulted from failing to change all portions of preliminary text to reflect the intent of the final agreement.

The corrections proposed by this joint resolution reflect only the original agreement on this Omnibus Appropriations Act, not any changes to that agreement. They are necessary to fully carry out the original agreement.



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I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I urge the adoption of this joint resolution.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I support the gentleman's motion, and I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the joint resolution, as follows:

H.J. RES. 25

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. Title III of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (as contained in DIVISION A, TITLE I—OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS, section 101(a) of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997, Public Law 104-208) is amended under the heading "COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES—DEFENDER SERVICES" by striking "attorneys ap—" at the end and inserting the following: "attorneys appointed to represent jurors in civil actions for the protection of their employment, as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1875(d); \$308,000,000, to remain available until expended as authorized by 18 U.S.C. 3006A(i)." The foregoing amendment shall be considered for all purposes to have taken effect on the date of enactment of Public Law 104-208, and any actions taken prior to the date of enactment of this section on the basis that Public Law 104-208 should be interpreted as if it included the amendment made by this section, if otherwise valid, are ratified and approved by Congress.

SEC. 2. Title I of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (as contained in DIVISION A, TITLE I—OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS, section 101(e) of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997, Public Law 104-208) is amended under the heading "EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION—STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS" by striking "\$23,452,000" and inserting "\$173,452,000".

SEC. 3. Funds available for title IV-A-1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education act in title III of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, Appropriations Act, 1997 (as contained in DIVISION A, TITLE I—OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS, section 101(e) of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997, Public Law 104-208) under the heading "SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS" shall also be available for title IV-A-2 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act: *Provided*, That, of the funds under these headings in that Act available July 1, 1997, through September 30, 1998, \$25,000,000 shall instead be available October 1, 1996, through September 30, 1997.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the joint resolution just passed, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 25) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 25

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and they are hereby, elected to the following standing committees:

Committee on Science: Mr. Sensenbrenner, Chairman.

Committee on Small Business: Mr. Talent, Chairman.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Mr. Stump, Chairman.

The resolution was agreed to. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the provisions of section 208(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 75a-1(a)), the Chair appoints Jeff Trandahl of Virginia to act as and to exercise temporarily the duties of Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Trandahl appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter. So help you God.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 7, 1997.

Hon. Newt Gingrich,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Under Clause 4 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I herewith designate Ms. Linda Nave, Deputy Clerk, to sign any and all papers and do all other acts for me under the name of the Clerk of the House which she would be authorized to do by virtue of this designation, except such as are provided by statute, in case of my temporary absence or disability.

This designation shall remain in effect for the 105th Congress or until modified by me. Sincerely yours,

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk.

APPOINTMENT AS TELLERS ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE TO COUNT ELECTORAL VOTES

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the provisions of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1, 105th Congress, the Chair appoints as tellers on the part of the House to count the electoral votes the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair desires to make a statement.

The Chair desires to defer unanimous-consent requests and 1-minute speeches until after the formal ceremony of the day, which is the counting of electoral votes for President and Vice President.

RECESS

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 12:55.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.) the House stood in recess until approximately 12:55 p.m.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 12 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.

COUNTING ELECTORAL VOTES—JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE HELD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1

At 1 p.m., the Assistant Sergeant at Arms, George Awkward, announced the Vice President and the Senate of the United States.

The Senate entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, headed by the Vice President and the Secretary of the Senate, the Members and officers of the House rising to receive them.

The Vice President took his seat as the Presiding Officer of the joint convention of the two Houses, the Speaker of the House occupying the chair on his left.

The joint session was called to order by the Vice President.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Mr. Speaker and Members of Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives, pursuant to the requirements of the Constitution and the laws of the United States, are meeting in joint session for the purpose of opening the certificates and ascertaining and counting the