

The reason I rise to speak here today, my colleagues, is that there is a danger that we are not recognizing the importance of these issues. We have not funded scientific research as well as we should have the past half decade. We do very well with health issues in the National Institutes of Health, but we have not done as well with some of our other enterprises, such as NASA, the Department of Energy, National Science Foundation and other very important endeavors. But perhaps the greatest problem lies in the deficiencies of our educational system in producing scientists and engineers and educating our citizens.

Particularly in our elementary and secondary schools, we are falling short not only of what we should achieve, but even more importantly we are falling short compared to the other nations of the world. In international comparisons, such as the Third International Mathematics and Science Study, we came in near the bottom of the developed nations in our high school science programs. We came in at the bottom in our high school physics programs. And overall we had a dismal record.

Now, how do we address this? There are various things we must do. First of all, we have to find good teachers; we have to train good teachers; we have to recruit good teachers; and, above all, we have to keep good teachers.

□ 1200

When we talk about training teachers, it is not just a matter of training the new ones. We have to have good professional development programs to help teachers in the classrooms now because the science that should be taught today is not the science that they learned when they were in colleges and universities. The field changes too dramatically, too rapidly.

We also need better curricula, curricula that recognize the nature and substance of science today and also that recognize the needs of the teachers in the classrooms so that they can effectively teach science.

I am not here to cast aspersions upon any group or any individuals, I think we are all trying very hard. But the simple point is we are not succeeding, and so we have to do better.

If we look at our graduate schools today, across our Nation in science and engineering we have more graduate students from other nations than we do from our own Nation. This tells us that our students competing on a level playing field in our own universities cannot make the grade and other nations' students are filling in.

We have to change that. And I believe we have to change our math and science educational system from preschool through grad school to ensure three things. First of all, that we have an adequate number of good scientists, engineers, and mathematicians. Secondly, that our graduates of our schools are ready for the workplace of

tomorrow. Because the workplace of tomorrow is going to require considerable knowledge of mathematics, science, and technology. Finally, we have to improve our educational system so that we will have better consumers and better voters in this Nation.

We need better consumers because today increasingly in the marketplace technical information is needed and is often provided but many in the public are not able to interpret it, whether it relates to health foods, whether it relates to medicine or other areas of life.

So I think, for those three reasons, producing better scientists and engineers, making our students ready for the workplace of tomorrow, and educating good consumers and good voters for the future, we must improve our math and science educational system. I am dedicating myself to helping the Congress and the Nation to improve our math and science educational programs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BOEHLERT (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of attending daughter's wedding.

Mr. GARY MILLER of California (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of family reasons.

Mr. ROGAN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. MENENDEZ (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of attending son's graduation.

Ms. SLAUGHTER (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNulty) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. EHLERS, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, June 29, 1999, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2754. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, et al.; Revision of the Sampling Techniques for Whole Block and Partial Block Diversions and Increasing the Number of Partial Block Diversions Per Season for Tart Cherries [Docket No. FV99-930-2 IFR] received June 11, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2755. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revisions, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District and Tehama County Air Pollution Control District [CA 192-0132a; FRL-6334-5] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2756. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Approval Under Section 112(1); State of Iowa [IA 069-1069a; FRL-6340-3] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2757. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Utah; Foreword and Definitions, Revision to Definition for Sole Source of Heat and Emissions Standards, Nonsubstantive Changes; General Requirements, Open Burning and Nonsubstantive Changes; and Foreword and Definitions, Addition of Definition for PM10 Nonattainment Area [UT10-1-6700a; UT-001-0014a; UT-001-0015a; FRL-6340-1] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2758. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maine; Approval of Fuel Control Program under Section 211(c) [ME61-7010A; A-1-FRL-6338-2] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2759. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Appendix A—Test Methods: Three New Methods for Velocity and Volumetric Flow Rate Determination in Stacks or Ducts [FRL-6337-1] received May 6, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2760. A letter from the Acting Chief, Enforcement Division, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Truth-in-Billing and Billing Format [CC Docket No. 98-170] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2761. A letter from the Chief, Fees Section, Financial Operations Division, OMD, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of the Schedule of Application Fees Set Forth

in Sections 1.1102 through 1.1107 of the Commission's Rules [GEN Docket No. 86-285] received June 21, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2762. A letter from the Attorney, General & Administrative Law, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Annual Update of Filing Fees [Docket No. RM98-15-000] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2763. A letter from the Attorney, General & Administrative Law, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Update of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Fees Schedule for Annual Charges for the Use of Government Lands [Docket No. RM86-2-000] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2764. A letter from the Attorney, General & Administrative Law, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines [Docket No. RM96-1-009; Order No. 587-I] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2765. A letter from the Attorney, General & Administrative Law, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Projects Cost and Annual Limits [Docket No. RM81-19-000] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2766. A letter from the Attorney, General & Administrative Law, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Standards for Business Practices of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines [Docket No. RM96-1-012] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

2767. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report to Congress on the Investigation of U.S.-Origin Military Equipment in Cyprus and Azerbaijan; to the Committee on International Relations.

2768. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Scup Fishery; Commercial Quota Harvested for Summer Period [Docket No. 981014259-8312-02; I.D. 061699C] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

2769. A letter from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Model DC-9-80 Series Airplanes, Model MD-88 Airplanes, and Model MD-90-30 Airplanes [Docket No. 98-NM-109-AD; Amendment 39-11201; AD 99-13-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2770. A letter from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 29594; Amendment No. 1935] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2771. A letter from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 29594; Amdt. No. 1936] received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2772. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USGC, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Year 2000 (Y2K) Reporting Requirements for Vessels and Marine Facilities [USGC-1998-4819] (RIN: 2115-AF85) received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2773. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USGC, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Special Local Regulation: Fireworks Displays within the First Coast Guard District [CGD01-99-009] (RIN: 2115-AE46) received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2774. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USGC, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone: Mashantucket Pequot Fireworks display, Thames River, Groton, CT [CGD01-99-061] (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2775. A letter from the Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, USGC, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Safety Zone: Saybrook Summer Pops Concert, Saybrook Point, Connecticut River, CT [CGD01-99-074] (RIN: 2115-AA97) received June 24, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2776. A letter from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 29584; Amdt. No. 416] received June 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. BLILEY: Committee on Commerce. H.R. 2035. A bill to correct errors in the authorizations of certain programs administered by the National Highway Traffic Administration (Rept. 106-200). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1652. A bill to establish the Yukon River Salmon Advisory Panel; with an amendment (Rept. 106-201). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. STUMP: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 2280. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide a cost-of-living adjustment in rates of compensation paid for service-connected disabilities, to enhance the compensation, memorial affairs, and housing programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve retirement authorities applicable to judges of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 106-202). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HYDE: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2014. A bill to prohibit a State from imposing a discriminatory commuter tax on nonresidents (Rept. 106-203). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CANADY: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1218. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions (Rept. 106-204). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 5 of the rule X, the Committee on Commerce discharged. H.R. 1802 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ARMEY:

H.R. 2362. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a refundable credit against income tax for the purchase of private health insurance, and to provide for a report on State health insurance safety-net program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAUZIN (for himself, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MCCREERY, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. GOODE, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BAKER, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. LINDER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. NEY, and Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN):

H.R. 2363. A bill to repeal the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, to enact the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1999, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. ENGLISH:

H.R. 2364. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the alternative minimum tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RANGEL:

H.R. 2365. A bill to authorize the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy to enter into negotiations with representatives of the Government of Cuba to provide for increased cooperation between Cuba and the United States on drug interdiction efforts; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. ROGAN (for himself, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia):

H.R. 2366. A bill to provide small businesses certain protections from litigation excesses and to limit the product liability of nonmanufacturer product sellers; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MEEHAN:

H. Con. Res. 143. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Billerica, Massachusetts, should be recognized as "America's Yankee Doodle Town"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. HYDE:

H. Res. 222. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives about