

Tiahrt	Walden	Wicker
Toomey	Wamp	Wilson
Trafficant	Watkins	Wise
Turner	Watts (OK)	Young (AK)
Vitter	Whitfield	

NOT VOTING—25

Baker	Gallegly	Scarborough
Burr	Greenwood	Shadegg
Burton	Holden	Smith (WA)
Calvert	Jefferson	Tanner
Carson	Jones (OH)	Visclosky
Chenoweth	Largent	Weygand
Clayton	Miller, George	Wu
Coble	Moakley	
Cunningham	Pryce (OH)	

□ 1315

Mr. ENGLISH changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

Mr. SWEENEY changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the motion to instruct was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 24, 1999, I was in my district visiting with my constituents and local representatives of various sites devastated by the ravages of Hurricane Floyd. As a result, I missed four rollcall votes.

Had I been present, the following is how I would have voted: Rollcall No. 444, H.R. 1487, Public Participation in the Declaration of National Monuments, "yea"; rollcall No. 445, McCarthy Amendment to H.R. 1501, Juvenile Justice Reform Act, "yea"; rollcall No. 446, Doolittle Amendment to H.R. 1501, Juvenile Justice Reform Act, "nay"; and rollcall No. 447, Lofgren Amendment to H.R. 1501, Juvenile Justice Reform Act, "yea."

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2579

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2579.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. BONIOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of inquiring from the distinguished majority leader the schedule for the rest of the day and the week and for the following week.

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

Mr. BONIOR. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that we have completed legislative business for this week.

The House will next meet on Monday, September 27, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and at 2 o'clock p.m. for legislative business. We will consider a number of bills under suspension of the rules, a list of which will be distributed to Members' offices later today.

On Monday, Mr. Speaker, we do not expect recorded votes until 6 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Speaker, next week appropriations conference reports will obviously be our top priority, and as we approach the end of the fiscal year. Conference reports may become available as early as Monday and throughout the week for consideration by the House.

On Tuesday, September 28, and the balance of the next week the House will take up the following measures, all of which will be subject to rules: H.R. 2506, the Health Research and Quality Act; H.R. 2559, the Agricultural Risk Protection Act; H.R. 2436, the Unborn Victims of Violence Act; and H.R. 2910, the National Transportation and Safety Board Amendments Act.

The House is also likely to consider a continuing resolution at some point next week.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also take the opportunity to remind Members that the annual congressional basketball game is scheduled for this coming Wednesday evening. That basketball game will benefit the country's only college for the deaf. This is a very worthy cause, Mr. Speaker, and I wish all the participants the best of luck.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, October 1, no votes are expected after 2 o'clock p.m. I wish all my colleagues a safe travel back to their districts.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his comments.

Just a couple of questions, Mr. Speaker. Does the gentleman from Texas expect any late evenings next week?

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is correct in asking. We have a large number of conference reports that we expect in the appropriations cycle. We should expect that we would be late Monday night. We would hope to do as many as two conference reports on Monday night.

With the exception of Wednesday, where we will try to accommodate that charity event, I think we would need to be prepared to work late every night. We will try to keep the Members apprised as conference reports are available.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague. With only three signable appropriation bills that have been sent to the President, I can understand the gentleman's concern to work the evenings next week.

We appreciate the slot for the Galaudet basketball charity biennial game that is held every year.

Can the gentleman from Texas tell us about the tax extender bill and when that might be expected?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, if the gentleman will yield, I understand that the Com-

mittee on Ways and Means has marked up today a tax extender bill. This is a matter of some urgency to a great many Members. It is certainly under consideration. I can only say with some confidence that while it will be considered, it would not be something we would look for next week on the floor.

Mr. BONIOR. How about the minimum wage bill? Does the gentleman have any further news on that?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, let me thank the gentleman for asking.

I might mention, prior to responding to the question, while I collect my thoughts on that part of the question, Mr. Speaker, that we will be trying to do a rule early so we can have same-day consideration for the appropriations conference reports.

There are a great many people working on minimum wage legislation. It is a matter of great interest to a large number of our Members and to constituents across the country. We are receiving reports from these various efforts, the committees of jurisdiction obviously being involved.

While I anticipate some action may occur on that subject during this year, I do not see anything clearly consolidated for presentation to the floor yet at this time.

Mr. BONIOR. But it is the gentleman's desire, or has it been a subject of conversation in the leadership, to try to bring something to the floor this year, is that what the gentleman has just said?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, if the gentleman will yield, the leadership is well aware of the number of Members on both sides of the aisle that are interested in this subject. We are watching their work as it proceeds. They are doing this on a very methodical basis, checking always with the committees of jurisdiction, the committees also exercising their jurisdiction.

We see hearings, for example, in the Committee on Education and the Workforce. I can only say at this point we do not have something that we expect to put on the floor, but we do anticipate that some legislation could be consolidated for consideration prior to our closing this session of Congress.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I will have to digest that last answer of the gentleman. Thank my colleague. Could I just ask one other question, because it relates to the scheduling.

We are entering the new fiscal year, as we all know, next week, and the prospects of a session next weekend was not discussed in the majority leader's statement. Are there any comments the gentleman would like to make with respect to that?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will continue to yield, I appreciate the gentleman's request. This is a matter of concern to a great many Members.

The gentleman from Michigan will notice that I included in my prepared remarks that we would expect votes to

be concluded by 2 o'clock on Friday. That is our expectation. Obviously, we place a high priority on conference reports, but it is our anticipation that that urgent business will be completed by that time.

If there is a change, it will be my purpose to notify all Members as quickly as possible, but right now I think the safe presumption for us to make is that we would conclude business by that time.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague, Mr. Speaker.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1999

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CLEMENCY FOR FALN TERRORISTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that the House did not get an opportunity earlier this week to discuss the Senate's resolution condemning the President's decision to grant clemencies to members of the FALN.

I draw Members' attention to the USA Today's headline, "FALN Brought Bloody Battle Into America's Streets." Let me read part of this newspaper article.

The Puerto Rican separatist group FALN exploded into public view on January 24, 1975, by attacking an icon of American history. It quickly became the most feared domestic terrorist group operating on U.S. soil.

The 1975 bombing of the Fraunces Tavern in New York City, where General George Washington bid farewell to his troops in 1783, left four dead and 54 wounded. It was the deadliest of more than 130 attacks linked to this group from 1974 to 1987, when most members were jailed.

Some Members here feel we are wasting our time talking about an issue that is already a fait accompli because the President has in fact signed the clemency and they are out of jail. They say we should be discussing social issues important to the American people.

Let me tell the Members, that is exactly what we are doing here in discussing the clemencies for FALN Members. We are talking about whether we should be a society that tolerates violence or a society that condemns it. It seems to me the people who propose more gun control measures, and some of it was discussed here today, as a solution to prevent future tragic acts of violence are the same ones who preach forgiveness and understanding for past acts of violence.

Following this twisted logic, we should create new gun control laws and then offer clemency to the people convicted of violating those laws.

It sounds like a bizarre scenario to me. But anyone who supports the President's decision to offer clemency to Members of the FALN is not serious about locking up those who violate our Nation's existing gun laws.

Of the 16 terrorists offered clemency by the President, 12 were convicted of the following violations of Federal firearm laws:

Possession of an "unregistered firearm," a machine gun or sawed-off rifle or shotgun. Twelve were convicted of those crimes.

Nine were carrying a firearm during the commission of a seditious conspiracy and interference with interstate commerce by violence.

Nine were arrested and convicted for interstate transportation of firearms with the intent to commit seditious conspiracy and interference with interstate commerce by violence;

Three, conspiracy to make a "destructive device", such as a pipe bomb; Two, possession of a firearm without a serial number.

These are people we let out of jail last week. For anyone who thinks that these terrorists will now be model citizens, let me share with them the 1997 statistics from the Bureau of Justice. Of the 108,580 persons released from prisons in 11 States in 1983, representing more than half of all released State prisoners that year, an estimated 62.5 percent were rearrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within 3 years, 46 percent were reconvicted, 41 percent returned to jail. A high recidivism rate, I would assume.

Maybe those same people we let out last week will have a chance to display

their good citizenship, as they did when they maimed, injured, and killed others.

I do not care if those offered clemency actually pulled the trigger, detonated the bomb, or drove the get-away car. The fact is they were active members of a terrorist organization dedicated to violence. Now they are free by an act of this president. That is more than a shame, it is tragic.

Let me also read, because people say that it is time for healing, time to get along, time to accept their apologies, time to recognize they have said they are sorry. Let us let them out of jail.

Jailhouse statements of FALN Members given clemency contrast with their recently stated claims to have renounced violence.

In October, 1995, for example, Luis Rosa, Alicia Rodriguez, and Carlos Torres told the Chicago Tribune that they have nothing to be sorry for and have no intention of renouncing armed revolution.

Another FALN member granted clemency, Ricardo Jimenez, told the judge in his case, "We are going to fight. Revolutionary justice will take care of you and everyone else." I think that is a fairly strong threat.

Talk about four killed, 54 injured.

On October 26, five bombings in downtown New York City, more than \$1 million in damage.

December 11, New York police were called to an upper east side building to collect a dead body. A booby-trap was set for them. A police officer was injured and lost an eye.

June 15, two bombs detonated in Chicago's loop area.

February, 1973, Merchandise Mart in Chicago bombed, damage totaled \$1.3 million.

□ 1330

August 3, 1977, Mobil Oil employment office in New York bombed, one killed, several injured; November 1979, two Chicago military recruiting offices and an armory bombed; March 1980, FALN members seized the Carter-Mondale campaign office.

My colleagues, these people should not have been released. This is an outrage, and the citizens of America should recognize it for what it is. It was a political act and not a just act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BEREUTER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)