

Clearly, as Republicans, our goal is simple. We want the information super-highway to be a freeway and not a toll-way.

I also want to mention two other proposals I am proud to sponsor, legislation which is designed to ensure the information highway is a freeway not a toll-way. I talked earlier about lower-income families not having computer and Internet access at home. I am proud to say that major employers in the State that I represent in Illinois have stepped forward, the private sector stepping forward to provide Internet and computer access as an employee benefit so the children of their janitors and laborers and assembly line workers of companies like Ford, Intel, American Airlines, and Delta Airlines have those computers.

Well, those computers should be tax free. Right now the IRS would like to tax them. That act would ensure they are treated the same as an employee benefit, such as pensions and retirement, as well as health care. I ask bipartisan support, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on these proposals.

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RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

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□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida) at 2 p.m.

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PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of the field; the grass withers and the flower wilts; but the Word of the Lord remains forever."

Creator of nature's beauty and Redeemer of all humanity, we have been born anew, not from perishable but from imperishable seed.

Your Word, O Lord, has created grateful hearts amid the wonders of this land and the rich progress of this Nation. May we never be weeded into discontent.

In all peoples You plant the seed of justice. Bring forth a springtime of peace among nations.

May the actions of this assembly nurture obedience to truth which produces sincerity of heart and mutual trust.

This is the Word we have accepted and now proclaim to the world: "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of the field; the grass withers and the flower wilts; but the Word of the Lord remains forever." Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TRAFICANT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TRAFICANT 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.

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SCANDALS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, well, it took almost 2 years, but memos from FBI Director Louis Freeh regarding the Democratic fund-raising scandal have finally been turned over to Congress.

Perhaps the Clinton administration was hoping that the memos would never turn up, especially since they state that key administration officials were under a lot of pressure not to go forward with the investigation because the Attorney General's job might hang in the balance.

The American people have a right to expect the Department of Justice to investigate wrongdoing, no matter where it may occur.

Mr. Speaker, the Clinton administration is not exempt from the laws of our Nation. It is my hope that the ongoing congressional hearings and investigations into these scandals will reveal the truth once and for all.

I yield back the continuing scandals and illegal cover-ups that have become an unfortunate characteristic of this administration.

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CHINA SAYS AMERICAN SHIPS ARE DEAD MEAT

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, military experts say that China just bought 24 cruise missiles from Russia. They now say American ships are now, quote/unquote, dead meat, dead meat. Think about it. We give Russia foreign aid. Russia builds missiles. Russia sells the missiles to China, built with American cash. China threatens Taiwan and Uncle Sam. Unbelievable.

I think it is time for Congress to tell China to keep their Communist hands off of Taiwan.

In addition, this sweetheart trade deal bothers me. It is very dangerous.

If Uncle Sam will turn the other cheek on Taiwan, China will laugh all the way to the bank on this trade deal. Beam me up. We have gone from better dead than red to dead meat.

I yield back America's Naval fleet being called dead meat by Naval experts.

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IT IS TIME TO ABOLISH THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR TAX

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

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, one of the top movies in America today is "Gladiator," a story of a young upstart struggling against an outdated and cruel dictatorship.

This week, the House will witness a similar struggle, Americans with phone lines versus the Internal Revenue Service.

More than 252 million businesses and families use phone lines, allowing them access to telephones, faxes, computers, and cellular phones. They are beneficiaries of modern technological advances that have changed our society, and yet every time Americans use this technology, the IRS financially penalizes them with the outdated Spanish-American War phone tax.

This tax was used to fund the Spanish-American War, a conflict which began and ended in 1898, 102 years ago. It is yet another case of a greedy and overbearing government using any means to tax hard-working Americans and this must end.

This week, let us disconnect Americans from the Spanish-American War phone tax.

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules but not before 6 p.m. today.

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NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2000

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 834) to extend the authorization for the National Historic Preservation Fund, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate Amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 2000".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND.

Section 108 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470h) is amended by striking "1997" and inserting "2005".

SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

Section 212(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470t(a)) is amended by striking "2000" and inserting "2005".

SEC. 4. LOCATION OF FEDERAL FACILITIES ON HISTORIC PROPERTIES.

Section 110(a)(1) of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470h-2(a)(1)) is amended in the second sentence by striking "agency," and inserting "agency, in accordance with Executive Order 13006, issued May 21, 1996 (61 F.R. 26071).".

SEC. 5. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) The National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.) is amended as follows—

(1) in section 101(d)(2)(D)(ii) (16 U.S.C. 470a(d)(2)(D)(ii)) by striking "Officer;" and inserting "Officer; and";

(2) by amending section 101(e)(2) (16 U.S.C. 470a(e)(2)) to read as follows:

"(2) The Secretary may administer grants to the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States, chartered by an Act of Congress approved October 26, 1949 (63 Stat. 947) consistent with the purposes of its charter and this Act.";

(3) in section 101(e)(3)(A)(iii) (16 U.S.C. 470a(e)(3)(A)(iii)) by striking "preservation; and" and inserting "preservation, and";

(4) in section 101(j)(2)(C) (16 U.S.C. 470a(j)(2)(C)) by striking "programs;" and inserting "programs; and";

(5) in section 102(a)(3) (16 U.S.C. 470b(a)(3)) by striking "year." and inserting "year.";

(6) in section 103(a) (16 U.S.C. 470c(a))—

(A) by striking "purposes this Act" and inserting "purposes of this Act"; and

(B) by striking "him:" and inserting "him.";

(7) in section 108 (16 U.S.C. 470h) by striking "(43 U.S.C. 338)" and inserting "(43 U.S.C. 1338)";

(8) in section 110(1) (16 U.S.C. 470h-2(1)) by striking "with the Council" and inserting "pursuant to regulations issued by the Council";

(9) in section 112(b)(3) (16 U.S.C. 470h-4(b)(3)) by striking "(25 U.S.C. 3001(3) and (9))" and inserting "(25 U.S.C. 3001 (3) and (9))";

(10) in section 301(12)(C)(iii) (16 U.S.C. 470w(12)(C)(iii)) by striking "Officer, and" and inserting "Officer; and";

(11) in section 307(a) (16 U.S.C. 470w-6(a)) by striking "Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no" and inserting "No";

(12) in section 307(c) (16 U.S.C. 470w-6(c)) by striking "Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the" and inserting "The";

(13) in section 307 (16 U.S.C. 470w-6) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f), as amended, as subsections (b) through (e), respectively; and

(14) in subsection 404(c)(2) (16 U.S.C. 470x-3(c)(2)) by striking "organizations, and" and inserting "organizations; and".

(b) Section 114 of Public Law 96-199 (94 Stat. 71) is amended by striking "subsection 6(c)" and inserting "subsection 206(c)".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) and the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY).

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

Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that one of the basic purposes of government is to preserve the cultural fabric of the Nation. Since 1966, one way this Nation

has tried to accomplish that goal is through the National Historic Preservation Act.

The bill before us reauthorizes that act through 2000 at its present level of \$150 million a year.

It is a tribute to the program that it has achieved the success it has despite the fact that it has seldom received more than \$40 million a year in appropriations.

State historic preservation agencies have used these Federal funds to attract three times that amount in State and private investment.

The bill also reaffirms the Nation's commitment to the use of historic properties by Federal agencies.

It also provides an authorization by which the Interior Department may administer grants to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This does not mean we are putting the trust back on the public payroll. Instead, it will allow Interior to respond quickly to emergency situations such as hurricanes or flooding.

There were some things left undone in this bill. While we retained the exemptions for the Capitol, the Supreme Court building, and the White House from historic preservation law, we were unable to agree on language that aimed at making the Architect of the Capitol more responsive to local preservation concerns.

This was largely due to the fact that the architect is not a government agency.

I believe this is an issue that needs to be revisited in the future. We have gotten a lot of mileage out of the Defense Department's record in historic preservation, particularly at some old cavalry posts out West.

If these facilities can honor their heritage and yet serve an evolving role in today's warfighting, I fail to see why the homes of the three branches of government need special treatment.

This bill is already 3 years overdue, and we must move ahead.

In conclusion, this is the bill that makes no sweeping changes, only incremental changes to what has become a mature and successful program. It works and for those reasons, I move the bill and urge its passage.

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

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

(Mr. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 834 reauthorizes funding for the National Historic Preservation Fund and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The bill also makes several minor changes to the National Historic Preservation Act. The legislation was originally considered by the House in September of last year and passed by voice vote. Subsequently, the Senate took up the legislation on April 13, 2000 and returned it to the House with an amendment.

The Senate amendment makes several technical and conforming changes to the bill. In addition, the bill deletes a provision that was in the original bill dealing with historic properties under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, the extension of funds for the Historic Preservation Fund and the reauthorization of the Advisory Council on National Preservation are important matters that need to be acted on now. As such, we support H.R. 834, as amended, and would encourage our colleagues to do likewise.

Just as a personal note, the very first public service appointment I had was to the Guam Review Board on Historic Preservation. These are very vital programs, very important programs, for communities and have an impact upon communities in ways that many people sometimes even in this body are not familiar with.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 834.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read:

"An Act to extend the authorization for the Historic Preservation Fund and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and for other purposes.".

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include therein extraneous material on the Senate amendments to H.R. 834.

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

There was no objection.

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ESTABLISHING A FEE SYSTEM FOR COMMERCIAL FILMING ACTIVITIES ON FEDERAL LAND

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 154) to provide for the collection of fees for the making of motion pictures, television productions, and sound tracks in National Park System and National Wildlife Refuge System units, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert: