

card records and other financial statements. Soon I will send legislation to you to finish that job.

We must also act to prevent any genetic discrimination whatever by employers or insurers. I hope you will support that.

These steps will allow us to lead toward the far frontiers of science and technology. They will enhance our health, the environment, the economy in ways we cannot even imagine today.

But we all know that at a time when science technology and the forces of globalization are bringing so many changes into all our lives, it is more important than ever that we strengthen the bonds that root us in our local communities and in our national community. No tie binds different people together like citizen service.

There is a new spirit of service in America, a movement we try to support with AmeriCorps, expanded Peace Corps, unprecedented new partnerships with businesses, foundations, community groups, partnerships, for example, like the one that enlisted 12,000 companies which have now moved 650,000 of our fellow citizens from welfare to work, partnerships to battle drug abuse, AIDS, teach young people to read, save America's treasures, strengthen the arts, fight teen pregnancy, prevent violence among young people, promote racial healing.

The American people are working together. But we should do more to help Americans help each other. First, we should help faith-based organizations to do more to fight poverty and drug abuse and help people get back on the right track with initiatives like second chance homes that do so much to help unwed teen mothers.

Second, we should support Americans who tithe and contribute to charities but do not earn enough to claim a tax deduction for it.

Tonight I propose new tax incentives that would allow low- and middle-income citizens who do not itemize to get that deduction. It is nothing but fair, and it will get more people to give.

We should do more to help new immigrants to fully participate in our community. That is why I recommend spending more to teach them civics and English. And since everybody in our community counts, we have got to make sure everyone is counted in this year's census.

Now, within 10 years, just 10 years, there will be no majority race in our largest State of California. In a little more than 50 years, there will be no majority race in America. In a more interconnected world, this diversity can be our greatest strength.

Just look around this Chamber, look around. We have Members in this Congress from virtually every racial, ethnic, and religious background. And I think you would agree that America is stronger because of it. But you will also have to agree that all those differences you just clapped for all too often spark hatred and division, even here at home.

Just in the last couple of years, we have seen a man dragged to death in Texas just because he was black. We saw a young man murdered in Wyoming just because he was gay. Last year we saw the shootings of African Americans, Asian Americans, and Jewish children just because of who they were.

This is not the American way, and we must draw the line. I ask you to draw that line by passing without delay the Hate Crimes Prevention Act and the Employment Nondiscrimination Act. And I ask you to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act.

Finally, tonight I propose the largest ever investment in our civil rights laws for enforcement because no American should be subjected to discrimination in finding a home, getting a job, going to school, or securing a loan. Protections in law should be protections in fact.

Last February, because I thought this was so important, I created the White House Office of One America to promote racial reconciliation. That is what one of my personal heroes, Hank Aaron, has done all his life. From his days as our all-time homerun king to his recent acts of healing, he has always brought people together. We should follow his example. We are honored to have him with us tonight. Stand up, Hank Aaron.

I just want to say one more thing about this, and I want every one of you to think about this the next time you get mad at one of your colleagues on the other side of the aisle. This fall, at the White House, Hillary had one of her millennium dinners and we had this very distinguished scientist there who was an expert in this whole work in the human genome; and he said that we are all, regardless of race, genetically 99.9 percent the same.

Now, you may find that uncomfortable when you look around here. But it is worth remembering. We can laugh about this, but you think about it. Modern science has confirmed what ancient fates has also taught us, the most important fact of life is our common humanity. Therefore, we should do more than just tolerate our diversity. We should honor it and celebrate it.

Thank you.

My fellow Americans, every time I prepare for the State of the Union, I approach it with hope and expectation and excitement for our Nation. But tonight is very special, because we stand on the mountaintop of a new millennium. Behind us, we can look back and see the great expanse of American achievement, and before us we can see even greater, grander frontiers of possibility. We should, all of us, be filled with gratitude and humility for our present progress and prosperity. We should be filled with awe and joy at what lies over the horizon, and we should be filled with absolute determination to make the most of it.

You know, when the framers finished crafting our Constitution in Philadel-

phia, Benjamin Franklin stood in Independence Hall and he reflected on the carving of the sun. It was on the back of a chair he saw. The sun was low on the horizon, so he said this. He said, I have often wondered whether that sun was rising or setting. Today, Franklin said, I have the happiness to know it is a rising sun.

Today, because each succeeding generation of Americans has kept the fire of freedom burning brightly, lighting those frontiers of possibility, we all still bask in the glow and the warmth of Mr. Franklin's rising sun. After 224 years, the American revolution continues. We remain a new Nation. And as long as our dreams outweigh our memories, America will be forever young. That is our destiny. And this is our moment.

Thank you, God bless you. And God bless America.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 10 o'clock and 47 minutes p.m. the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet;

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

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JOINT SESSION DISSOLVED

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint session of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 50 minutes p.m., the joint meeting of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

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MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. RIVERS (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of inclement weather.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. SHAYS (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of illness.

Ms. CARSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business in the district.

Mr. MCNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of inclement weather.

□

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. WELLER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

□

SENATE BILLS AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS REFERRED

Bills and Concurrent Resolutions of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 244. An act to authorize the construction of the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System and to authorize assistance to the Lewis and Clark Rural Water System, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, for the planning and construction of the water supply system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 276. An act for the relief of Sergio Lozano; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 302. An act for the relief of Kerantha Poole-Christian; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 348. An act to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance training, research and development, energy conservation and efficiency, and consumer education in the oilheat industry for the benefit of oilheat consumers and the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 366. An act to amend the National Trails System Act to designate El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro as a National Historic Trail; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 439. An act to amend the National Forest and Public Lands of Nevada Enhancement Act of 1988 to adjust the boundary of the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 486. An act to provide for the punishment of methamphetamine laboratory operators, provide additional resources to combat methamphetamine production, trafficking, and abuse in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary; 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.

S. 501. An Act to address resource management issues in Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska; to the Committee on Resource.

S. 624. An Act to authorize construction of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System in the State of Montana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 692. An Act to prohibit Internet gambling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 698. An Act to review the suitability and feasibility of recovering costs of high altitude rescues at Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 710. An Act to authorize a feasibility study on the preservation of certain Civil War battlefields along the Vicksburg Campaign Trail; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 711. An Act to allow for the investment of joint Federal and State funds from the civil settlement of damages from the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 734. An Act entitled "National Discovery Trails Act of 1999"; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 748. An Act to improve Native hiring and contracting by the Federal Government within the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 769. An Act to provide a final settlement on certain debt owed by the city of Dickinson, North Dakota, for construction of the bascule gates on the Dickinson Dam; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 961. An Act to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to improve shared appreciation arrangements; to the Committee on Agriculture.

S. 964. An Act to provide for equitable compensation for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 986. An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Griffith Project to the Southern Nevada Water Authority; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1019. An act for the relief of Regine Beatie Edwards; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 1030. An act to provide that the conveyance by the Bureau of Land Management of the surface estate to certain land in the State of Wyoming in exchange for certain private land will not result in the removal of the land from operation of the mining laws; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1088. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain administrative sites in national forests in the State of Arizona, to convey certain land to the City of Sedona, Arizona for a wastewater treatment facility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1117. An act to establish the Corinth Unit of Shiloh National Military Park, in the vicinity of the city of Corinth, Mississippi, and in the State of Tennessee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1119. An act to amend the Act of August 9, 1950, to continue funding of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1211. An act to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to authorize additional measures to carry out the control of salinity upstream of Imperial Dam in a cost-effective manner; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1236. An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for commencement of the construction of the Arrowrock Dam Hydroelectric Project in the State of Idaho; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1243. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the prostate cancer preventive health program; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1268. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide support for the modernization and construction of biomedical and behavioral research facilities and labora-

tory instrumentation; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1275. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to produce and sell products and to sell publications relating to the Hoover Dam, and to deposit revenues generated from the sales into the Colorado River Dam fund; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1288. An act to provide incentives for collaborative forest restoration projects on National Forest System and other public lands in New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1295. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 3813 Main Street in East Chicago, Indiana, as the "Lance Corporal Harold Gomez Post Office"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

S. 1296. An act to designate portions of the lower Delaware River and associated tributaries as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1324. An act to expand the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park to include the Wills House, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1329. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to Nye County, Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1330. An act to give the city of Mesquite, Nevada, the right to purchase at fair market value certain parcels of public land in the city; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1349. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resource studies to determine the national significance of specific sites as well as the suitability and feasibility of their inclusion as units of the National Park System; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1374. An act to authorize the development and maintenance of a multiagency campus project in the town of Jackson, Wyoming; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1453. An act to facilitate famine relief efforts and a comprehensive solution to the war in Sudan; to the Committee on International Relations.

S. 1488. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for recommendations of the Secretary of Health and Human Services regarding the placement of automatic external defibrillators in Federal buildings in order to improve survival rates of individuals who experience cardiac arrest in such buildings, and to establish protections from civil liability arising from the emergency use of the devices; to the Committee on Commerce.

S. 1508. An act to provide technical and legal assistance to tribal justice systems and members of Indian tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources; in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary 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.

S. 1515. An act to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Judiciary.

S. 1516. An act to amend title III of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11331 et seq.) to reauthorize the Federal Emergency Management Food and Shelter Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Finance.

S. 1569. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 1599. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part