

vote was made public that she was absent and in possession of her voting card. Since then, the Clerk has received that confirmation. For that reason and the statistical improbability of the recurrence of that anomaly, the Chair and the Chairman of the Committee on House Administration believe that it is proper to immediately correct the RECORD and the Journal.

As stated in Volume 14, Section 32 of Deschler-Brown Precedents:

Since the inception of the electronic system, the Speaker has resisted attempts to permit corrections to the electronic tally after announcement of a vote. This policy is based upon the presumptive reliability of electronic device and upon the responsibility of each Member to correctly cast and verify his or her vote.

Based upon the explanation received from the Chairman of the Committee on House Administration and from the Clerk, the Chair will continue to presume the reliability of the electronic device, so long as the Clerk is able to give that level of assurance which justifies a continuing presumption of its integrity. Without objection, the Chair will permit the immediate correction of the RECORD and Journal under the unique circumstances certified by the Clerk.

There was no objection.

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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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

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GAS PRICE SPIKES

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this evening I would like to expose the Republicans' attempt to make a campaign issue out of the Nation's gas price spike crisis and Democrats' efforts to solve this crisis and continue working to protect our long-term energy security.

Higher gas prices should not be a partisan issue, but the Republicans are making it into one. On the other hand, the Democrats are trying to come up with bipartisan solutions. For instance, Democrats have called on committee chairmen holding hearings on this topic in the coming days to invite oil executives to testify so that these hearings are balanced. Democrats insist on exploring why the oil companies are showing record profits and why, when an investigation was announced, prices dropped immediately. Yet, the Republican leadership instead is making a sham of these hearings by using them as a forum to attack the Clinton-Gore administration. Moreover, the Republicans also do not want to invite the oil executives to testify, because they are in the pockets of big oil.

GOP presidential candidate George W. Bush is one of the worst offenders. He has raised 15 times more money from oil and gas interests than Vice President AL GORE, and at least 25 of his top fund-raisers are connected to the oil industry. Last year, one of the first bills he signed bailed out the oil industry with a \$45 million tax break.

Let us look at other dilatory tactics by the Republicans. The Senate Republican leadership has held up reauthorization of the President's authority to draw down the strategic petroleum reserve and the Northeast heating oil reserve. These reserves would provide additional supplies for the gasoline and heating oil markets and would, in turn, bring down prices. The Clinton-Gore administration has supported both of these reserves. Yet, the Senate majority leadership has delayed action for too long, so even if both of these reserves were authorized today, the action is already too little, too late. As a result, Americans unfortunately are again to experience heating oil shortages in the Northeast this winter, and they have the Republican Congress to thank for it.

While the Clinton-Gore administration is trying to provide tax credits for energy efficient vehicles, buildings, homes and equipment, the Republican leadership is cutting funding for alternative energy sources and energy conservation measures. They have slashed

funding for these common sense programs since they have been in the majority, which has resulted in a \$1.3 billion shortfall. As recently as last week, the Republican leadership voted again to cut funding substantially below current funding levels for renewable energy programs in the Energy and Water funding bill. Tomorrow, the Republicans will have a chance to restore some of this funding. If they are serious about resolving this crisis, they will literally put their money where their mouths are on this vote.

The GOP leadership also wants to repeal gas taxes and jeopardize our Nation's transportation infrastructure. In addition, they want to gut environmental protections that cost only 2 to 3 cents per gallon.

Just in case anyone out there thinks a few pennies are too much to pay for clean air, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) and the gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACCIO) and I introduced a bill on Friday, H.R. 4739, that would enable the patent for blending cleaner, reformulated gasoline to be made available to all refiners. This would level the playing field for all refiners and, in turn, would bring down the price of reformulated gasoline.

If the Republican leadership is serious about working together in a bipartisan fashion to develop true solutions to this crisis, then they will work with us to bring legislation such as the bill my colleagues and I introduced last week to the floor quickly. They also would find common sense programs that promote alternative energy options, ensure that oil executives are present at this week's hearings, and work with us to resolve this crisis as quickly as possible.

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PRIVATIZATION OF ENRICHMENT INDUSTRY MISTAKE BY CONGRESS

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

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, in the early 1950s, this Nation constructed two large uranium enrichment facilities, one in Paducah, Kentucky, and one in my district near Portsmouth, Ohio. In the early days, those facilities were used to create the materials that enabled us to create a nuclear arsenal; and I believe, as a result, we were able to win the Cold War. In more recent years, those facilities have enriched uranium so that we can create fuel for our nuclear power plants. Nuclear power provides more than 20 percent of all of the electricity generated in this country, and most of that fuel comes from the Paducah and the Portsmouth facilities.

A couple of years ago, this Congress unwisely, I believe, decided to privatize the enrichment industry. The CEO of the public corporation was a gentleman by the name of Nick Timbers. He had come to that position from Wall

Street; and in that position, his salary was in the vicinity of \$325,000 and, I believe his last year as a government employee he received about \$25,000 roughly in bonus pay, for a total compensation package of roughly \$350,000. While a government corporation employee, he received a waiver letter from the chairman of the public board, which allowed him to be engaged in certain decision-making activities. Among those was to decide whether or not this industry would be privatized, the manner in which it would be privatized, and to assist in the selection of the board members for the new privatized corporation.

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I raised the issue at the time with the Department of the Treasury and with the administration that this presented an amazing conflict of interest. This was a man who was working for the government who was being given the privilege of engaging in decision-making where the result could be his personal enrichment. At the time when I raised those issues, they were discounted and ignored.

What has happened is this, and the American people need to know it. Once that facility or that industry was privatized, Mr. Nick Timbers received a salary of roughly \$600,000 a year. He received a bonus of approximately \$500,000 a year. He received stock options which brought his total compensation package to something in the vicinity of \$2.5 million.

That seems so wrong to me, that someone could be given the privilege of making these decisions, and then could make decisions which resulted in his personal enrichment.

What has happened as a result of the privatization under Mr. Nick Timbers' stewardship? The stock initially sold for around \$14.50 a share, and it is somewhere in the vicinity of \$4 a share today, so investors have lost multiple millions of dollars.

But the saddest outcome of Mr. Timbers' stewardship over this industry is the fact that last week the board, with his encouragement, made an announcement that the facility in my district, employing somewhere between 1,800 and 2,000 employees, will be closed within 1 year. This is a major problem for the families who depend upon that industry for employment in southern Ohio, but it is a big problem for the United States of America.

We know what happens, we experience today what happens when this Nation is overly dependent upon foreign sources for oil. We can go to the pump and see that we are paying \$2 or \$2.10 or \$2.20 for a gallon of gasoline, and that is because, in large part, we are too dependent on foreign oil.

Can Members imagine if this enrichment industry goes the way it is currently going and does not survive under Mr. Timbers' stewardship, what this country would face if 20 percent of our Nation's electricity was dependent on foreign sources for nuclear fuel?

It is for this reason, Mr. Speaker, that I am preparing and will introduce next week legislation to renationalize this industry. I hope this Congress supports me in that effort.

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. CARSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today before 8:44 p.m. on account of airport and weather delays.

Mr. MARKEY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of illness in the family.

Mr. REYES (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for June 23 on account of official business.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today after 6:00 p.m. on account of family health reasons.

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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:

Mr. FILNER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BENTSEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RUSH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. SCHAFFER, for 5 minutes, June 29.

Mr. HOEKSTRA, for 5 minutes, June 28 and 29

Mr. SHAYS, for 5 minutes, today and June 27.

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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. 2043. An act to designate the United States Post Office building located at 3101 West Sunflower Avenue in Santa Ana, California, as the "Hector G. Godinez Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

S. 2327. An act to establish a Commission on Ocean Policy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2460. An act to authorize the payment of rewards to individuals furnishing information relating to persons subject to indictment for serious violations of international humanitarian law in Rwanda, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

S. 2677. An Act to restrict assistance until certain conditions are satisfied and to support democratic and economic transition in Zimbabwe; to the Committee on International Relations, in addition to the Com-

mittee on Banking and Financial Services 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. 2682. An act to authorize the Broadcasting Board of Governors to make available to the Institute for Media Development certain materials of the Voice of America; to the Committee on International Relations.

S. Con. Res. 117. Concurrent resolution commending the Republic of Slovenia for its partnership with the United States and NATO, and expressing the sense of Congress that Slovenia's accession to NATO would enhance NATO's security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

S. Con. Res. 118. Concurrent resolution commemorating the 60th anniversary of the execution of Polish captives by Soviet authorities in April and May 1940; to the Committee on International Relations.

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ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 642. An act to redesignate the Federal building located at 701 South Santa Fe Avenue in Compton, California, and known as the Compton Main Post Office, as the "Mervyn Malcolm Dymally Post Office Building."

H.R. 643. An act to redesignate the Federal building located at 10301 South Compton Avenue, in Los Angeles, California, and known as the Watts Finance Offices, as the "Augustus F. Hawkins Post Office Building."

H.R. 1666. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service at 200 East Pinckney Street in Madison, Florida, as the "Captain Colin P. Kelly, Jr. Post Office."

H.R. 2307. An act to designate the building of the United States Postal Service located at 5 Cedar Street in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, as the "Thomas J. Brown Post Office Building."

H.R. 2357. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 3675 Warrensville Center Road in Shaker Heights, Ohio, as the "Louise Stokes Post Office."

H.R. 2460. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 125 Border Avenue West in Wiggins, Mississippi, as the "Jay Hanna 'Dizzy' Dean Post Office."

H.R. 2591. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 713 Elm Street in Wakefield, Kansas, as the "William H. Avery Post Office."

H.R. 2952. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Orchard Park Drive in Greenville, South Carolina, as the "Keith D. Oglesby Station."

H.R. 3018. An act to designate certain facilities of the United States Postal Service in South Carolina."

H.R. 3699. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8409 Lee Highway in Merrifield, Virginia, as the "Joel T. Broyhill Postal Building."

H.R. 3701. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3118 Washington Boulevard in Arlington, Virginia, as the "Joseph L. Fisher Post Office Building."

H.R. 3903. An act to deem the vessel M/V MIST COVE to be less than 100 gross tons, as measured under chapter 145 of title 46, United States Code.

H.R. 4241. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located