

This is an issue that the critics of the Boy Scouts somehow suggest that the organization lacks a certain amount of diversity, which is not true. If we just go to the Boy Scout Web site and look at their policy statement on diversity, it says more than 90 years ago the Boy Scouts of America was founded on the premise of teaching boys moral and ethnical values through an outdoor program that challenges them and teaches them respect for nature, one another and themselves. Scouting has always represented the best in community, leadership and service.

The Boy Scouts of America has selected its leaders using the highest standards because strong leaders and positive role models are so important to the healthy development of youth. Today, the organization still stands firm that their leaders exemplify the values outlined in the Scout oath and law.

It goes on, on June 28, 2000, the United States Supreme Court reaffirmed that the Boy Scouts of America's standing as a private organization with the right to set its own membership and leadership standards.

The Boy Scouts say here in their policy statement that Boy Scouts of America respects the rights of people and groups who hold values that differ from those encompassed in the Scout oath and law, and the BSA makes no effort to deny the rights of those whose views differ to hold their attitudes or opinions.

It goes on, it is a very nice statement, one that I think the Scouts should be proud of, and that all of us here in Congress should keep in mind when this unfortunate legislation makes its way through the process to revoke the charter of the Boy Scouts of America, because the Democrats have decided that this is an organization that no longer warrants support from the Congress and from the Federal Government.

So my message to Members is there is a large and growing coalition of us who will rise to the defense of the Scouts and do everything we can to make sure that the young men that are part of the organization are led by competent, capable, trustworthy leaders that are able to conduct themselves in a way that is consistent with the Scout oath.

I just want to mention that, Mr. Speaker, for the RECORD it is a very serious issue and it is unfortunate that we have to have this debate, and I think it is going to probably escalate in terms of the intensity as time goes on.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. JEFFERSON (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official 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. BENTSEN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. INSLEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BENTSEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. STABENOW, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. METCALF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DUNCAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WOLF, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, September 11, 2000, at noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

9890. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-402, "Closing of a Portion of a Public Alley in Square 4337, S.O. 95-94, Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9891. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-385, "Steve Sellow Way, N.E., Designation Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9892. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-384, "Andrew J. Allen Way, N.E. Designation Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9893. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-396, "Seniors Protection Amendment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9894. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-386, "Diabetes Health Insurance Coverage Expansion Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9895. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-397, "Environmental License Tag Amendment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9896. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-399, "Water and Sewer Authority Collection Enhancement Amend-

ment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9897. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-400, "Conflict of Interest Amendment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9898. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-401, "Reinsurance Credit and Recovery Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9899. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-404, "Insurance Agents and Brokers Licensing Revision Amendment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9900. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-403, "Metrobus Ticket Transfer Amendment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9901. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-389, "Drug Abuse, Alcohol Abuse, and Mental Illness Insurance Coverage Amendment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9902. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-387, "State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9903. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-418, "Freedom From Cruelty to Animals Protection Amendment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9904. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-407, "Insurer and Health Maintenance Organization Self-Certification Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9905. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. Act 13-406, "Sentencing Reform Amendment Act of 2000" received September 07, 2000, pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

9906. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Kentucky Regulatory Program [KY-226-FOR] received August 31, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

9907. A letter from the Assistant Director, Communications, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Notice of Interim Final Supplementary Rules on Public Land in Utah [UT-030-1652-PA-24 1A] (RIN: 1004-AD40) received August 31, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

9908. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of General Counsel & Legal Policy, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the Office's final rule—Proposed Exemption

Amendments Under 18 U.S.C. 208(b)(2) for Financial Interests in Sector Mutual Funds, De Minimis Securities, and Securities of Affected Nonparty Entities in Litigation (RIN: 3209-AA09) received August 31, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. S. 624. An act to authorize construction of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System in the State of Montana, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106-823). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1124. A bill to authorize construction of the Fort Peck Reservation Rural Water System in the State of Montana, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106-824). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 3632. A bill to revise the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106-825). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 3745. A bill to authorize the addition of certain parcels to the Effigy Mounds National Monument, Iowa; with an amendment (Rept. 106-826). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 2163. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 500 Pearl Street in New York City, New York, as the "Ted Weiss United States Courthouse"; with amendments (Rept. 106-827). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. S. 1794. An act to designate the Federal courthouse at 145 East Simpson Avenue in Jackson, Wyoming, as the "Clifford P. Hansen Federal Courthouse" (Rept. 106-828). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 2984. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to convey to the Loup Basin Reclamation District, the Sargent River Irrigation District, and the Farwell Irrigation District, Nebraska, property comprising the assets of the Middle Loup Division of the Missouri River Basin Project, Nebraska; with an amendment (Rept. 106-829). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1460. A bill to amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to decrease the requisite blood quantum required for membership in the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo tribe (Rept. 106-830). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 1751. A bill to establish the Carrizo Plain National Conservation Area in the State of California, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106-831). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 2674. A bill providing for conveyance of the Palmetto Bend project to the State of Texas; with an amendment (Rept.

106-832). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 3388. A bill to promote environmental restoration around the Lake Tahoe basin; with an amendment (Rept. 106-833 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. LEACH: Committee on Banking and Financial Services. H.R. 1161. A bill to revise the banking and bankruptcy insolvency laws with respect to the termination and netting of financial contracts, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 106-834 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X Committees on the Judiciary and Commerce discharged. H.R. 1161 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X Committees on Agriculture and Transportation and Infrastructure discharged. H.R. 3388 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 1161. Referral to the Committees on the Judiciary and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than September 7, 2000.

H.R. 3388. Referral to the Committees on Agriculture and Transportation and Infrastructure extended for a period ending not later than September 7, 2000.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 5120. A bill to amend the Small Reclamation Projects Act of 1956 to establish a partnership program in the Bureau of Reclamation for small reclamation projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. SHAW:

H.R. 5121. A bill to authorize a comprehensive Everglades restoration plan; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Resources, 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. BLILEY:

H.R. 5122. A bill to amend the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986 to provide for the availability to the public of information reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank under such Act, to establish additional reporting requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. TANCREDO:

H.R. 5123. A bill to require the Secretary of Education to provide notification to States and State educational agencies regarding the availability of certain administrative funds to establish school safety hotlines; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BALDACCI:

H.R. 5124. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at

14 Municipal Way in Cherryfield, Maine, as the "Gardner C. Grant Post Office"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. BEREUTER:

H.R. 5125. A bill to amend the Agricultural Market Transition Act to provide for the payment of special loan deficiency payments to producers who are eligible for loan deficiency payments, but who suffered yield losses due to damaging weather or related condition in a federally declared disaster area; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (for herself, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELO, Mr. UNDERWOOD, and Mr. FALCOMA-VEGA):

H.R. 5126. A bill to amend titles XI and XIX of the Social Security Act to remove the cap on Medicaid payments for Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa and to adjust the Medicaid statutory matching rate for those territories; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mrs. CHRISTENSEN:

H.R. 5127. A bill to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States with respect to the production incentive certificate program for watch and jewelry producers in the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COLLINS (for himself and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts):

H.R. 5128. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow distilled spirits wholesalers a credit against income tax for their cost of carrying Federal excise taxes prior to the sale of the product bearing the tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DEUTSCH:

H.R. 5129. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the unified credit against estate and gift taxes to the equivalent of a \$5,000,000 exclusion and to provide an inflation adjustment of such amount; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DOOLITTLE (for himself, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. POMBO, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. PACKARD, and Mr. THOMAS):

H.R. 5130. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide cost sharing for the CALFED water enhancement programs in California; to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. FILNER:

H.R. 5131. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to roll back the wholesale price of electric energy sold in the Western System Coordinating Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN (for himself, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. SAXTON, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. KING, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. LAZIO, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. KLECZKA, and Mr. ROTHMAN):

H.R. 5132. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a comprehensive program for testing and treatment of veterans for the Hepatitis C virus; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.