

and say can Social Security make it, on that basis, Social Security's bankrupt. So what do we do?

First of all, if we are going to make changes in Social Security, we have to do what George W. Bush has proposed and what a number of us support very strongly; that is, one, we have to guarantee that the people like, for example, my age and the generation ahead of me are not going to lose their benefits. They are not. There is nobody on Social Security today or nobody from age 40 or above say, for example, that is going to have their benefits threatened.

The Social Security benefits will be there, and do not let the liberals use the fear tactics of telling you that we cannot be bold in Social Security, that we should not try something new, that we ought to stay with the same old thing, even though it is not working in the long run.

We have to have some kind of assurance to the workers presently in the later stages of their career that your benefits are okay. I am telling you, the generation, the X generation, or the younger generation, whatever you want to call them, these people are bright people. They are energetic people. They want choice more than ever in the history of this country. This generation following us wants independence, and they are bright enough to handle it.

They have experience in business. They want to have choice. They want to be able to choose. They want to choose more than ever, whether they live in the country or here, they want to choose whether their kids go to public school or private school. I think George W. Bush has hit the button right on the top of it, this generation, this young generation wants to make some choice in Social Security.

We have a plan that is tried, true and tried, so to speak, right here. We are part of it. What is the opposition to going to the Social Security and putting that into effect, the same kind of plan that every one on the floor of the House of Representatives and almost three million other Federal employees enjoy. It works. I think we ought to try it.

Mr. Speaker, I will tell my colleagues the biggest mistake we can make here and biggest misservice we can do to our constituents here is to sit idle. Look, this is election time, in the next 4 weeks, 5 weeks, or 6 weeks, we are going to have a lot of political rhetoric, but the minute that goes by, in 6 weeks, I think we have an obligation to step up to the plate and do it; get it done; get this train back on course.

Now, I think there is always going to be a disagreement between what I would call moderate and conservative on economics and the liberal philosophy. The liberal philosophy, in my opinion, has a huge safety net that takes care of everybody and does it on a collective basis.

Now, I am not sure how they pay for it, but they feel that the responsibility

of the individual is the obligation of the government, but the moderate and the conservatives feel that the responsibility of the individual is exactly that, the responsibility of the individual with the assistance from the government, where the individual cannot provide.

I think doing something with Social Security fits in the latter category. It is allowing individuals to have some choice. It does not give them complete choice because we do not want a person who loses all of their money to still look to us and put the blame on us, the government; what we want an individual to do is to have some choice. It is at that point where I think people are economically savvy enough to make some of these choices.

Mr. Speaker, a lot of people, a lot of workers, no matter what kind of job they have decided to participate in mutual funds. They are making more choices on their personal finances. They are becoming more and more knowledgeable about it. They are becoming more and more confident about it. We have a good economy.

What is interesting, too, is when we have those down days on the stock market, these people do not hit the panic button. It is not like the great panic in the early last century. These people are more patient with it. So why can we not be? I mean we work for them. We work for the people.

Why do we not step forward and let them have more choice in the Social Security plan that they want to participate in? I mean it is a big part of their future, and they ought to play as active a role in that as they can possibly do it.

Frankly, I think the plan that the Republicans and some Democrats and George W. Bush has put forward is worth looking at. I am amazed in these last few weeks how it has been trashed and trashed and trashed, when, in fact, as I said earlier in my comments, 3 million government employees are on that type of plan right now, and it works for us. It will work for our constituents.

Let me wrap up and conclude my remarks this evening.

First of all, I think it is a mistake. And I think it has driven the policy, as underlying as its foundation, to take oil from our strategic petroleum reserve, that reserve should be restricted to true emergencies.

The fact that our gasoline prices have gone up is discouraging. Who is not angry about that? Who does not think that there is not some gouging going on out there? Sure, it is discouraging, but is that really, truly the type of emergency that we would envision, or is that driven by political policy? My position is the policy of the President is not that policy that was intended when we created the strategic petroleum reserve.

Second of all, tax; when they talk out there on the political trail and they talk about tax reductions, make a

question, is it fair? Should it be there in the first place?

Third of all, give us some choice in Social Security. We need a new, bold plan that protects current beneficiaries of Social Security, guarantees certain benefits for future generations of Social Security, but also let these beneficiaries participate and help choose and help direct the investments they make with that program.

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ENGLISH (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of weather and traffic conditions.

Mr. POMBO (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of travel delays.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and September 26 on account of personal 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. BROWN of Ohio) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PASCRELL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SLAUGHTER, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. NETHERCUTT, for 5 minutes, September 26.

Mr. SOUDER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PORTER, for 5 minutes, September 27.

Mr. HYDE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. METCALF, for 5 minutes, today and September 26, 27, 28, 29.

Mr. BILIRAKIS, for 5 minutes, October 2.

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SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2511. An act to establish the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

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ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 9 minutes

p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 26, 2000, at 9 a.m., for morning hour debates.

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EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

10263. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Citrus Canker; Addition to Quarantined Areas; Correction [Docket No. 00-036-2] received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

10264. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Melon Fruit Fly Regulations; Regulated Areas, Regulated Articles and Removal of Quarantined Area [Docket No. 99-097-3] received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

10265. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the request and availability of appropriations for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program of the Department of Health and Human Services; (H. Doc. No. 106-295); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

10266. A letter from the Director, Office of Equal Opportunity Program, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule—Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance (RIN: 1190-AA28) received September 20, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

10267. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Equal Opportunity Programs, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance (RIN: 1190-AA28) received September 20, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

10268. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—National Priorities List for Uncontrolled Hazardous Waste Sites [FRL-6877-4] received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

10269. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Pennsylvania: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program [FRL-6875-3] received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

10270. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Tennessee: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program [FRL-6874-6] received September 20, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

10271. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Tennessee: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program [FRL-6874-6] received September 20, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

gram Revision [FRL#6874-6] received September 20, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

10272. A letter from the Associate Bureau Chief, WTB, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Parts 2 and 95 of the Commission's Rules to Establish a Medical Implant Communications Service in the 402-405 MHz Band [WT Docket No. 99-66; RM-9157] received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

10273. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Electronic Filing of Documents [Docket No. RM00-12-000; Order No. 619] received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

10274. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of major defense equipment sold commercially under a contract to the Netherlands [Transmittal No. DTC 101-00], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

10275. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to Norway and Spain [Transmittal No. DTC 100-00], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

10276. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to South Korea [Transmittal No. DTC 110-00], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

10277. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to Argentina [Transmittal No. DTC 108-00], pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

10278. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); to the Committee on International Relations.

10279. A letter from the Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Rule to List the Santa Barbara County Distinct Population of the California Tiger Salamander as Endangered (RIN: 1018-AF81) received September 20, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

10280. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Grouper Fishery off the Southern Atlantic States; Resubmission of Disapproved Measure in Amendment 9 [Docket No. 00211038-0232-02; I.D. 101499D] (RIN: 0648-AM93) received September 20, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

10281. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Polskie Zakłady

Lotnicze Spolka zo.o. Models PZL M18A, and PZL M18B Airplanes [Docket No. 99-CE-84-AD; Amendment 39-11897; AD 2000-18-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

10282. A letter from the Attorney, Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Hazardous Materials Regulations: Editorial Corrections and Clarifications [Docket No. RSPA-00-7755 (HM-189Q)] (RIN: 2137-AD47) received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

10283. A letter from the Attorney, Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Pipeline Safety: Underwater Abandoned Pipeline Facilities [RSPA-97-2094; Amdt. Nos. 192-89; 195-69] (RIN: 2137-AC54) received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

10284. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Service Difficulty Reports [Docket No. 28293; Amendment No. 121-279, 125-35, 135-77, and 145-22] (RIN: 2120-AF17) received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

10285. A letter from the Commissioner of Social Security, transmitting a draft bill intended as an addendum to the draft bill, "Social Security Amendments of 2000"; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

10286. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—Kathy A. King v. Commissioner—received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

10287. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule—October 2000 Applicable Federal Rates [Rev. Ruling 2000-45] received September 22, 2000, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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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. BLILEY: Committee on Commerce. H.R. 2641. A bill to make technical corrections to title X of the Energy Policy Act of 1992; with amendments (Rept. 106-886). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. LINDER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 591. Resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 109) making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes (Rept. 106-887). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 592. Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (Rept. 106-888). Referred to the House Calendar.