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House of Representatives

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. QUINN) at 8 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS

Mr. REYNOLDS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-209) on the resolution (H. Res. 242) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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

Mr. LAHOOD. 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 printed.

The motion was agreed to.

GIVING HIGHEST PRIORITY TO CHILDREN VICTIMIZED BY EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, again I wish to offer my deepest sympathy and compassion for those who have lost their lives, their loved ones and, as well, who have been injured through the heinous acts of Sep-

tember 11. Now I think it is time for us to come together as Americans and deal with the human tragedy for those who are remaining.

It is very important that we speak to and address the issues dealing with our children. I am delighted to join with almost 30 other cosponsors and my co-chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN), to put to the Congress H. Con. Res. 228, which expresses a sense of the Congress to deal with those children who have lost a parent or parents or guardians, to prioritize their needs, to ensure that the dollars that we have to assist in this tragedy are quickly and deliberately given to these children as we seek to nurture them and to say to them all will be well.

We must also look at the human capital that is impacting those who are losing their jobs: U.S. Airways, 20,000; Continental Airways, 12,000; Boeing, 30,000.

So, as we move to assist the airlines and others, let us remember those who are now being laid off, the human tragedy, the human loss. Let us make sure that language in the bill that is being put forward for the airlines talks about the laid-off employees. As we do that, we must make sure we take care of our children.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is for our children. The World Trade Center, Pentagon, and Somerset County tragedies did not discriminate against the social, racial, or economic status of Americans—all were murdered with equal and deliberate impunity. Our American brothers and sisters slaughtered ranged from food service workers on the top floor of the World Trade Center, to cleaning and maintenance crews, to CEOs and top brass of major brokerage houses. They included all races, colors, and religious denominations. But those who will suffer the greatest and most enduring losses will be the children that they left behind.

This important resolution expresses the sense of the Congress that the children who

lost one or both parents or a guardian in the September 11, 2001, World Trade Center and Pentagon tragedies (including the aircraft crash in Somerset County, Pennsylvania) should be provided with all necessary assistance, services, and benefits and urges the heads of Federal agencies responsible for providing such assistance, services and benefits to give the highest possible priority to those children.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is non-controversial. It merely prioritizes the delivery of federal benefits currently available under federal law to children who have lost their parent(s) or guardian in this horrific tragedy. These should include: (1) foster care assistance; (2) adoption assistance; (3) medical, nutritional, and psychological care; (4) educational services; and (5) such additional care or services as may be necessary in light of this tragedy.

Additionally, we urge such agencies, to the maximum extent possible, to take such steps as necessary to ensure that such assistance, services and benefits are provided within 60 days of the date of the determination of the death of the child's parent or guardian.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. KIND (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of an unavoidable weather delay.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 52 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until today, Friday, September 21, 2001, at 9 a.m.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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