

Private Calendar be dispensed with today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 3, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 3, 2001 at 10:34 a.m.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1766.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2261.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2454.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.J. Res. 71.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHL,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF MEMBER OF THE HONORABLE JOHN CONYERS, JR., MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Deanna Maher, congressional aide to the Honorable JOHN CONYERS, Jr., Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 11, 2001

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
*Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for production of documents issued by the Washtenaw County Circuit Court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

DEANNA MAHER,
Congressional Aide.

PASSAGE OF TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

(Mr. RYUN of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, in my home State of Kansas, family farms are no longer able to make ends meet. Farmers tell me it is crucial that we expand markets for their products now or they will not be in business in 10 years.

Today, one in three acres planted by our farmers is harvested for export. We can and should do better.

Trade Promotion Authority is a tool that can boost the profits of American farmers and make them even more self-sufficient. If we streamline the trade agreement process that President Bush must follow, we will have increased competition, economic efficiency, and greater markets for our farm products.

As the key player on the world stage, we should give President Bush our vote of confidence to promote trade without excessive barriers.

I believe in the American farmer, and I trust President Bush. I urge my colleagues to allow the President to create more markets for American grains and products by granting Trade Promotion Authority.

TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAEL

(Mr. LANTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the distinguished chairman of the House Committee on International Relations, and I will introduce a resolution that categorically condemns this week's outrageous terrorist strikes against the State of Israel and Israeli people.

In the attacks of September 11, our Nation suffered the loss of over 3,000 innocent men, women, and children. Since that fateful day, our ally Israel has suffered a comparable loss. With 6 million citizens compared to our 280 million, Israel's 60 victims since September equates to over 2,700 American victims. Nearly half this number perished in a span of just 14 hours this past weekend.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is currently targeting regimes that harbor terrorists, as well as terrorists themselves. Israel must also target the terrorists' protectors. The Palestinian Authority bears full responsibility for the attacks of December 1 and 2, just as the Taliban bears full responsibility for the attacks of September 11.

I urge all of our colleagues to join the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and me in this resolution expressing solidarity with the people of Israel.

VOTING FOR TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, when we vote in 2 days on Trade Promotion Authority, nothing less than American leadership in the world is at stake.

As we lead the world in an effort to eradicate terrorism, we risk abdicating our position of leadership in an area

that is just as vital to America's well-being and that is international trade.

The United States has been falling rapidly behind the rest of the world in international trade. I said rapidly behind. There are more than 130 trade agreements in effect in the world today, but the United States is party to just three.

For the world's most open society, the U.S., which should be leading the charge to open up other countries to our products, this is a sorry state of affairs.

We have a chance on Thursday to reclaim the mantle of leadership by passing TPA. When we do, the exports will go abroad; and the high paying jobs will stay here.

I urge all my colleagues to support TPA.

RECOGNITION OF THE ROLE WOMEN PLAYED IN THE TRAGEDY OF SEPTEMBER 11

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I join the other members of the Caucus of Women's Issues at a luncheon to honor women at Ground Zero.

To look at the media reporting, we believe that all who responded were men; but as was the case, there was a need, and the women were there were, firefighters, police officers, construction workers, emergency medical personnel, doctors, nurses and others, putting their lives on the line and in some cases giving their lives.

I want to thank the co-chairs, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD), for having the NOW legal defense and education fund, and Lieutenant Brenda Berkman there to tell the story of the brave and selfless women who were there with the men to respond in our country's tragic hour of need.

The story brought a tear to many an eye, male and female, not just because of the stories the women told, and they were powerful, but also because once again women were invisible, in the media, in the new recruits, also in the recovery planning; and this is America, not Afghanistan.

This is a potent reminder that women even here are still underrepresented at high levels of business and politics and that we are underpaid and have less opportunity.

As we put our country back on the road to recovery, let us not get back to normal. Let us get better.

HALT STORAGE OF NUCLEAR WASTE AT YUCCA MOUNTAIN

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. The General Accounting Office, a nonpartisan congressional investigative agency, is calling on the President and the Department of Energy to indefinitely postpone its decision on whether to build a huge permanent centralized waste storage site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

The GAO report calls the plan to bury waste at Yucca Mountain a failed scientific process, echoing the concern I and my fellow Nevadans have expressed for years.

Yet the report goes on further; it warns that the plans the DOE has been showing to Congress and Nevadans may not describe the facilities that DOE would actually develop.

Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that the plan to bury nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain has not only been an obscene waste of taxpayer money but also a huge conspiracy to misrepresent the facts and deceive the American public.

It is time for the DOE to tell the truth. Storing nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain is not a safe plan, and I call upon my colleagues in the Congress to protect the American people and halt Yucca Mountain.

SUPPORT TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, we hear many reasons why this House should pass legislation to renew Trade Promotion Authority. Today, I rise on behalf of working American families who need TPA.

American families in the bottom 20 percent of the income scale spend 52 percent of their after-tax income on food and clothing. Unfortunately for these hard-working families, food and clothing are the most heavily taxed income sectors, accounting for more than half of U.S. import taxes.

In fact, the average American family of four pays \$1,100 every year because of import taxes. Talk about regressive taxation. Families struggling to make ends meet are disproportionately hit by import taxes at the same time our trade negotiators sit on the sidelines, lacking authority to make the deals needed to eliminate these taxes.

Passing TPA will help working families. Let us pass H.R. 3005 and give them a break.

SUPPORTING ISRAEL'S WAR ON TERRORISM

(Mr. FERGUSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, the scene is one that we know all too well: mindless terrorists attacking the young and the innocent, fleeing civilians with terror in their eyes, and once

again, Mr. Speaker, scores of young people, their lives ended by the violent hatred of terrorism. We saw this on our own soil on September 11, and we saw it again this past weekend in Israel.

Mr. Speaker, September 11, while devastating for us, also gave us a sense for what our friends in Israel have been dealing with for decades; but beyond our new understanding of Israeli suffering, September 11 also gave us a new responsibility, to support Israel's own war on terrorism.

I applaud President Bush and the recent comments from Secretary of State Colin Powell. They have recognized that Israel has a right and a responsibility to defend itself.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in Congress and the American people to support our friends in Israel as they struggle for peace and security.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

PERIODIC REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCIES WITH RESPECT TO YUGOSLAVIA AND KOSOVO—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-154)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit here-with a combined 6-month periodic report on the national emergencies declared with respect to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in Executive Order 12808 on May 30, 1992, and Kosovo in Executive Order 13088 on June 9, 1998.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 4, 2001.

PERIODIC REPORT ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-155)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), I transmit here-with a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 4, 2001.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 7 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY'S SUCCESS IN PROMOTING DEMOCRACY

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 242) recognizing Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's success in promoting democracy and its continuing contribution to United States national interests.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 242

Whereas on May 1, 1951, Radio Free Europe inaugurated its full schedule of broadcast services to the people of Eastern Europe and, subsequently, Radio Liberty initiated its broadcast services to the peoples of the Soviet Union on March 1, 1953, just before the death of Stalin;

Whereas now fifty years later, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL, Inc.) continues to promote democracy and human rights and serve United States national interests by fulfilling its mission "to promote democratic values and institutions by disseminating factual information and ideas";

Whereas Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty were established in the darkest days of the cold war as a substitute for the free media which no longer existed in the communist-dominated countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union;

Whereas Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty developed a unique form of international broadcasting known as surrogate broadcasting by airing local news about the countries to which they broadcast as well as providing regional and international news, thus preventing the communist governments from establishing a monopoly on the dissemination of information and providing an alternative to the state-controlled, party dominated domestic media;

Whereas the broadcast of uncensored news and information by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty was a critical element contributing to the collapse of the totalitarian communist governments of Central and Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union;

Whereas since the fall of the Iron Curtain, RFE/RL has continued to inform and therefore strengthen democratic forces in Central