

HONORING AMERICAN ZOO AND AQUARIUM ASSOCIATION

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 408) honoring the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and its accredited member institutions for their continued service to animal welfare, conservation education, conservation research, and wildlife conservation programs.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 408

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That the Congress recognizes and honors the American Zoo and Aquarium Association and its member institutions of zoological parks and aquariums for their dedicated service in animal welfare, conservation education, conservation research, and wildlife conservation programs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, founded in 1924, the American Zoo Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of zoos and aquariums. AZA institutions draw over 135 million visitors annually and have more than 5 million zoo and aquarium members. These institutions teach more than 12 million people each year in living classrooms, dedicate an estimated \$50 million annually to education programs, invest an estimated \$50 million annually to scientific research, and support over 1,300 field conservation research projects in 80 countries.

AZA member institutions are a critical component in the conservation of marine mammals in the wild through broad-based education research and standing recovery rehabilitation programs.

Additionally, many AZA facilities and scientists collaborate with researchers from colleges, universities, and other scientific institutions to conduct studies important to species conservation and health. AZA facilities have developed species survival plans which are cooperative long-term breeding and conservation programs that provide many species with an insurance policy against extinction. Some of the species covered by these plans include all the great apes, Africa and Asian elephants, Siberian and Sumatran tigers, and black, white Sumatran and greater one-horned rhinos.

These cooperative conservation programs support both field and institutional research to ensure that these animals are carefully managed and maintain a healthy self-sustaining population that is genetically diverse and demographically stable.

AZA institutions across the United States have maintained high curatorial

and veterinarian standards for zoos and aquariums in addition to supporting programs that protect, conserve, and restore wild animal populations.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 408 commends the American Zoo and Aquarium Association for all the great work they have done, and I urge Members to support passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise also in support of this concurrent resolution recognizing the American Zoo and Aquarium Association for its outstanding role in the conservation of the world's biodiversity and for its advancement of zoos and aquariums here and abroad.

Collectively, AZA member institutions draw over 135 million visitors each year. This affords the AZA facilities a huge opportunity and responsibility to instruct the public on the need to protect and conserve the wonders of the natural world.

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The wide variety of public education and interpretive programs made available through AZA institutions admirably fulfills this mission, and I applaud the AZA for their important work towards developing the next generation of wildlife conservation.

In closing, H. Con. Res. 408 is non-controversial, and I urge its adoption by the House.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands and the staff on both sides of the aisle for supporting this legislation in recognizing all of those people, whether it is a tiny zoo in Cecil County, Maryland, or Salisbury, Maryland, or the magnificent aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland, to zoos and aquariums all across this country by trying to understand, and doing a pretty good job of it, of understanding the nature of the magnificence of where people fit into the natural environment on this blue planet.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the subcommittee for the gentleman's leadership and the work he has done to accommodate the needs and unique considerations of the territories as we work on the Committee on Resources. We have no members of AZA, but we do have Coral World in St. Thomas, and I am hoping at some point in the near future they will be a member of this wonderful organization.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Virgin Islands is a beautiful place in the Caribbean; that is its own AZA.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 408.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONSTITUTION OF COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 395) celebrating the 50th anniversary of the constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 395

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That the Congress celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GILCHREST asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 395. The gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN), the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL), and Resident Commissioner ANIBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ worked together to compose this non-partisan and status-neutral resolution celebrating the 50th anniversary of the constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

H. Con. Res. 395 celebrates the 50th anniversary of this important historical event in our Nation's history by listing some highlights Puerto Rico's local constitution went through in becoming adopted. The resolution is non-controversial, and I ask Members to join me in its support.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 395 is a resolution authored by the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ) in close collaboration and with the full support of both the chairman and ranking member, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL).

The gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ) regrets that he is not here for the House consideration of the resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, but a long-standing commitment in his district this morning made it impossible for him to be here until later today. He has already submitted a statement for the RECORD on his support of this historic occasion.

I take this opportunity, also, Mr. Speaker to commend the resident commissioner, the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ) for his work on this resolution. H. Con. Res. 395 commemorates the 50th anniversary of the constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Mindful of the spirited debate over Puerto Rico's political status, the resolution was crafted to be nonpartisan and status neutral.

The adoption of Puerto Rico's constitution began in 1950 with the enactment of the U.S. law which permitted Puerto Rico to draft its own constitution. A referendum held in March of 1952 ratified the work of a constitution convention 6 months in the making. In July 1952, Congress approved Puerto Rico's constitution, and it was thereafter signed by President Harry S. Truman as Public Law 82-447.

The relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States predates the adoption of their constitution. Their contribution to the diversity of the U.S. along with their economic and social development begins in 1898 and continues today. The constitution is but yet a milestone for Puerto Rico, and they look forward to greater political progress.

Mr. Speaker, Puerto Ricans living in my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and particularly my home island of St. Croix, have contributed significantly to the development of the Virgin Islands. They are now an integral part of the fabric of every facet of life in our community.

I am sure that all of the residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands join me in congratulating the esteemed Governor, Sila Calderon, and our neighbors, friends and oft times family, the people of Puerto Rico, on this 50th anniversary and wish them God's continued blessings not only during this celebration but as they continue to realize their dreams and aspirations for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage Members to support this resolution. We look forward to expeditious consideration in the other body.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO).

(Mr. SERRANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise with utmost respect for my colleagues and with some sadness in my heart because I rise in opposition to this resolution. I do so because in our profession, perception is a strong weapon. And the perception of this weapon or the result will be that we are in fact celebrating the relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States. While that relationship has had some wonderful moments, it has never stopped, in my opinion, being a colonial relationship, in fact.

I do not think the Congress should at this moment or at any other moment celebrate and encourage continued colonial relationships. Now, why do I believe that Puerto Rico is a colony of the United States? Because while citizenship has been granted since 1917, the same rights as other American citizens have not been granted to the American citizens who live in Puerto Rico. I often startle some of my colleagues by reminding them that if any of us were to move back to Puerto Rico right now, we could not serve in Congress with a vote, we could not vote for Members of Congress, we could not vote for the President, or have full representation. Yet our citizenship supposedly would stay intact. I find it very difficult to do what I am doing, but I think it needs to be done so we can continue once and for all to discuss this issue and bring it to the front of the political discussion in this country.

A few years ago I joined with the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) in the so-called Young bill, which I think was the first real attempt for our country to tell the place where I was born what to do about its political future. What the Young bill did was say here are your options, take a vote, and 180 days from the time you take the vote, we will respond. That bill passed the House, never passed the Senate. That is sad because that bill in my opinion would have put this thing in motion.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear today that Puerto Rico remains a U.S. territory subject to the absolute powers of the U.S. Congress under the territorial clause of the United States Constitution in spite of the level of internal self-government given by the U.S. Congress.

When in 1952 the Jones Act was replaced by Public Law 447, which is what we are celebrating today, which approved the constitution of Puerto Rico, the law governing Puerto Rico changed. However, the territorial relationship previously existing did not change at all. And a territory, as we all know, is neither a State of the Union nor a nation of the world. It is simply a colony. In fact, Puerto Rico holds the dubious distinction of being the oldest

colony in the world, having been a colony of Spain for over 400 years until 1898 and now a colony of the U.S. for over 100 years.

To celebrate any colonial status is to promote and prolong it. And I cannot, and I refuse to do that, however benign this resolution may seem.

This Congress should not be celebrating nor promoting the continued colonialism of Puerto Rico, and it is time we did something about it. The United Nations recognizes two options for decolonization: Puerto Rico becomes the 51st State of the Union and joins the other States with full powers and responsibilities; or Puerto Rico becomes a sovereign nation unto itself and takes its place among other nations of the world.

Under separation, there is also the option for free association where Puerto Rico could negotiate with the United States, common currency, postal service, military service; but all negotiated as equals, not as it exists today.

Rather than celebrating and promoting this status, we should let the 4 million American citizens of Puerto Rico know that the only option real to them is not the present option, but the option of statehood or independence. Most importantly and most urgently, we must move forward to put an end to this colonialism that shames both our Nation and Puerto Rico and brings indignity to the over 4 million fellow citizens living in Puerto Rico.

Mr. Speaker, I come to this discussion as a person who feels emotion on both sides. I grew up in New York City since I was a little boy coming from Puerto Rico. I was born in Puerto Rico. I grew up in a State called New York. I know the dignity and strength and democracy of being a State. I grew up in an independent Nation called the United States. I know the dignity and strength of that. That is all I ask for the place I was born in.

Let me say for those on the island who may not care for these comments, I do not approach it as someone who was born there only. I approach it as a Member of the United States Congress who, looking at the Caribbean, says today, 2002, 104 years later, Puerto Rico should no longer be a colony of the United States.

I respect my colleagues, and I know that their intent is to celebrate the relationship. However, I have some problems, serious problems, with the relationship. Statehood or independence, that is the way to go.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the constitution that we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of is really a milestone for Puerto Rico. As we have heard, this is but a step on their road to progress and a future status yet to be determined by the people of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. I appreciate the remarks of the gentleman and his sentiment on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I do want to say that the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ) asked us to propose this resolution for the 50th anniversary of the constitution of Puerto Rico with the full intent of giving the people of Puerto Rico a great deal of dignity. It is about that that we are discussing this issue here this afternoon.

I urge my colleagues to vote "aye" on the resolution.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, while I do not have any objections to this resolution, it does not paint the complete picture regarding the status of Puerto Rico. H. Con. Res. 395, does not represent the views of the majority of our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico.

It is important that my colleagues are aware that most of our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico and many of our citizens of Puerto Rican descent do not share the sentiments of this resolution. Many of our constituents do not support continuation of Puerto Rico's current political status.

The constitution enshrined Puerto Rico's status as a U.S. territory. Its approval attempted to legitimize the status, but it was controversial from the start. This subject to many is visceral, and several years ago nationalists were so enraged by this often-divisive issue that they fired shots in this very chamber. Their violence was unjustified and reprehensible, and world events clearly show that resorting to violence to have your voice heard does not advance one's cause. Advocates of the constitution were disappointed with the final result of an effort that was intended to enable Puerto Ricans to choose a permanent, non-territorial status as well as draft a local constitution. It only accomplished the latter goal. In fact, the counsel to the governor at the time who had a significant role in drafting not only the laws that authorized and approved the constitution but the constitution itself, recently wrote that even the constitution was "mauled" in Congress. The counsel called the vents of fifty years ago that we rise to celebrate today "a tawdry record."

In fact, approving the equivalent of a state constitution for a territory was a democratic innovation in territorial governance at the time, even though Puerto Ricans were already electing their own governor as well as legislature.

The current governing arrangement is a sad anachronism in this era. It no longer has the support of our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico. A 12-year governor from the party that is generally associated with the current status wrote a few years ago "all factions do agree on the need to end the present undemocratic arrangement, whereby Puerto Rico is subject to the laws of Congress but cannot vote in it."

In the most recent referendum on the islands' status options, in December 1998, the current status received .06% of the vote. The party that has been associated with the current status abandoned that losing proposition—and never really wanted it.

Even the most ardent defenders of the status quo, like the current Governor, recognize

that the current arrangement has had its day, although in careful words. The Governor recently said that "fifty years ago" the arrangement "fared quite well when compared with the prevailing colonial arrangements then existing in the Caribbean. Half a century later there are areas where that is no longer the case."

Mr. Speaker, with all due respect to the distinguished gentleman from the territory and the Governor who were elected with a plurality; they are not in a position to speak for the people of Puerto Rico on the issue. While a plurality is adequate for conducting day-to-day government functions, it is not enough to act on behalf of the islands on questions that can change the complete status of the territory. For issues of paramount importance a majority is required.

Puerto Rico has a tradition of handling all such questions on a tri-partisan basis. This resolution was not the subject of consultations with the two minority parties, which together represent a clear majority of the vote and the majority of citizens' views on status matters. It is important to note that spokesmen for the two parties have criticized the resolution because of the status that it symbolizes.

Mr. Speaker, while I do not object to H. Con. Res. 395, we should recognize that a majority of Puerto Ricans would not be pleased by our passage of this Resolution.

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman Hansen and Ranking Member Rahall and the leadership of both parties for their support of this Concurrent Resolution celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

In order to fully appreciate the historical significance of the Constitution of the Commonwealth proclaimed in 1952, I will share with my colleagues some of the pertinent historical facts.

In 1917 Congress approved the Jones Act, conferring the US citizenship to all Puerto Ricans. While citizenship has always been and remains cherished by Puerto Ricans, the Jones Act did not provide increased local rule or a democratic process through which the people of Puerto Rico could exercise their right to self-determination.

While the Jones Act included a bill of rights, the central principle of a democratic system—consent by the governed—was non-existent in Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico was therefore treated at this time like a colony. For decades, the Puerto Rican people struggled to achieve self-determination, and democratic rule. After World War II, the colonial regime founded under the Jones Act became difficult to sustain in Puerto Rico and in Washington. In 1947 Congress responded to Puerto Rico's claim for democracy, by enacting the Elective Governor Act. This statute provided for the election, every 4 years, of the governor of Puerto Rico by the people of Puerto Rico.

There years later, with Public Law 600 of 1950, Congress began a process through which the people of Puerto Rico would exercise their right to self-determination by drafting their own constitution. It is important to note that Congress did not impose this Act upon the people of Puerto Rico, but rather it made an offer to Puerto Ricans that could be accepted or rejected. Section 2 of the Act provides: "This Act shall be submitted to the qualified voters of Puerto Rico for acceptance or rejection through an island-wide referendum

to be held in accordance with the laws of Puerto Rico. Upon the approval of this Act by a majority of the voters participating in such referendum, the Legislature of Puerto Rico is authorized to call a constitutional convention to draft a constitution for the said island of Puerto Rico."

Puerto Rico accepted the offer and a constitutional convention drafted the new constitution and in March 1952, the people of Puerto Rico ratified it. Months later, the President signed Public Law 447, approving the Constitution of the Commonwealth. In that Joint Resolution, Congress expressed that Public Law 600 had been approved "as a compact with the people of Puerto Rico." Finally, in July 25, 1952, Governor Luis Muñoz Marín proclaimed the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

This Constitution established a republican form of government, provided for a broad Bill of Rights that followed not only the US Constitution but also the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man. This Constitution also provided for the election of all members of the legislature by the people.

As expected, democratic rule, paved the way for cultural growth and economic development. After 1952, under the Commonwealth status, Puerto Rican culture flourished, and a stronger sense of identity grew. Our symbols were brought back to our public landscape, our flag, our anthem, etc. The Commonwealth allowed Puerto Ricans to fully and freely express their identity and their pride. Moreover, under Commonwealth, our economic foundations have grown stronger and the relationship has been very beneficial for both Puerto Rico and the United States. Today Puerto Rico consumes more U.S. goods per capita than any jurisdiction in the world and represents the 9th largest market for U.S. goods in the world. In 1999, Puerto Rico purchased \$16 billion worth of US products, which translates into over 320,000 jobs in the mainland U.S. Today I want my colleagues to recognize that Puerto Rico purchases more from the U.S. than much larger countries such as China, Italy, Russia and Brazil.

Clearly the Commonwealth Constitution has served well the people of Puerto Rico and the status of Commonwealth has benefited the United States.

While the Commonwealth alternative has won every referendum held on the Island since 1952, the issue of Puerto Rico's status is not settled. It is actually a highly divisive issue. As the representative of Puerto Rico in Congress I will continue working to make sure that the will of the people of Puerto Rico is heard and respected in Washington, and to make sure that any petition to improve the Commonwealth be properly addressed.

Notwithstanding the current debate of status in Puerto Rico, there is no doubt that the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico represents the greatest democratic achievement of the Puerto Rican people, in the 20th century. It is this historical achievement that we celebrate on July 25th.

The Commonwealth is the result of the pragmatic genius and the progressive spirit of a great generation of leaders in Puerto Rico and in the United States. I quote President Harry Truman on April 22, 1952, regarding the approval by Congress of the Puerto Rican Constitution: "The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico will be a government which is truly by

consent of the governed. No government can be invested with higher dignity and greater worth than one based upon the principle of consent. The people of the United States and the people of Puerto Rico are entering into a new relationship that will serve as an inspiration to all who love freedom and hate tyranny. We are giving new substance to man's hope for a world with liberty and equality under law. Those who truly love freedom know that the right relationship between a government and its people is based on mutual consent and esteem. The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is a proud document that embodies the best of our democratic heritage. I recommend its early approval by the Congress."

Some fifty years have passed since Congress ratified the Constitution of Puerto Rico. I am very proud to represent my people and to recognize and celebrate this historic event through this resolution today. It is an honor to work with my colleagues in Congress and to celebrate with all Americans the Commonwealth Constitution and our ongoing commitment to democracy, liberty, progress and self-determination.

I thank my colleagues for their support of this Resolution.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking Democrat on the Resources Committee I want to begin by thanking JIM HANSEN for his work in getting this important resolution celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico before the House of Representatives.

While it is true that Chairman HANSEN and I often have a difference of opinion when it comes to issues involving Puerto Rico, on the matter before us today we stand united.

I also want to commend the gentleman from Puerto Rico, Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA, for his diligence in bringing this measure to our attention, and working to have it considered by the House of Representatives in a timely fashion.

During my tenure in Congress, I've come to appreciate the passionate deliberations over Puerto Rico's future political status. Anyone who is familiar with this history will recognize how studious one must be in crafting legislation, or otherwise, that makes mention of Puerto Rico's political status. In this regard, I offer my deep appreciation to Mr. ACEVEDO-VILA for working collaboratively with both Chairman HANSEN and myself to compose a nonpartisan and status-neutral resolution recognizing this milestone for Puerto Rico.

It is times such as this occasion that we are given good cause to step back and appreciate all that the relationship between Puerto Rico and the United States has meant to each other over the years. The U.S. has benefitted from Puerto Rican achievements in business, the arts, government, and athletics. More importantly, the U.S. has been enriched by Puerto Rican history, culture, and language. I would also emphasize the in time of war the people of Puerto Rico have also shed their blood in defense of the United States of America.

For her part, Puerto Rico has capitalized on the access to economic opportunities provided to her from the U.S. relationship. The result of this, being a prosperous economy and society.

The relationship will be perfected. The determination of the people of Puerto Rico will make it so. I have a special fondness for the people of Puerto Rico. I have found them to be a hard working and diligent people with deep passions. Today, I congratulate the people of Puerto Rico on this anniversary and encourage my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 395, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4807, H. Con. Res. 408, and H. Con. Res. 395, the legislation just debated.

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

There was no objection.

NOTICE

Incomplete record of House proceedings. Except for concluding business which follows, today's House proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5093, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (during the Special Order of Mr. MCINNIS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-577) on the resolution (H. Res. 483) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5093) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business in the district.

Ms. HARMAN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of attending a memorial service.

Ms. KILPATRICK (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business.

Mr. MASCARA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and July 16 on account of personal reasons.

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. DEFazio) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

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

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHOWS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. THURMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and July 16, 17, and 18.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois to include extraneous material, notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds two pages of the RECORD and is estimated by the Public Printer to cost \$9,630.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House reports that on June 12, 2002 he presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.