

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 19, 2002, I was unable to be present for roll call votes No. 402, Recognizing the Teams and Players of the Negro Baseball Leagues, and No. 403, the Waters Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 3295—Help America Vote Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll No. 402 and "yea" on roll No. 403.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I missed rollcall Nos. 400, 401, 402, and 403 due to attending my brother-in-law's funeral. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea", on all four rollcalls.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I was unexpectedly detained during the vote for H. Res. 523 recognizing the contributions of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERMISSION TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2002, TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1646, FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2002 AND 2003

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers may have until midnight, Monday, September 23, to file a conference report on the bill (H.R. 1646) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2002 and 2003, and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 524 and H. Res. 525, the resolutions just agreed to.

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

There was no objection.

REPORT ON H.R. 5410, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

Mr. KOLBE, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-663) on the bill (H.R. 5410) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes, which was referred to

the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to inquire about the schedule for next week.

I am pleased to yield to the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman from California for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the House has completed its legislative business for the week. The House will next meet for legislative business on Tuesday, September 24, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and 2 o'clock p.m. for legislative business. I will schedule a number of measures under suspension of the rules, a list of which will be distributed to Members' offices tomorrow. Recorded votes on Tuesday will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, for Wednesday and Thursday, I have scheduled the following measures: a conference report to accompany H.R. 1646, the State Department Authorization Act; a resolution calling for completion as soon as possible for the worker pension security legislation that passed this House in April and has not been considered in the other body; H.R. 4691, the Abortion Nondiscrimination Act of 2002; a continuing resolution; and H.R. 4600, the Health Act of 2002.

I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that information. I have some further questions if the gentleman will be available.

I understand the gentleman is saying H.R. 4600, the medical malpractice bill, will be on the floor next week. Could the gentleman give us a little more what day it would be?

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentlewoman for the inquiry; and if the gentlewoman would continue to yield, we expect to deal with that bill on Thursday of next week.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, so it is my understanding that next week we will be in Tuesday night, Wednesday and Thursday again; we have given away Monday and Friday again?

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentlewoman for the inquiry; and if the gentlewoman will yield, in fact, the gentlewoman understood exactly correct.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, we have given away tomorrow, we are giving up next Monday, we are giving up next Friday, and the list of unfinished business continues to grow. The number of legislative days continues to shrink.

Does the gentleman expect the bill to deduct education expenses to be scheduled for next week? If so, on what day?

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentlewoman for the inquiry. I am sorry I did not hear the bill the gentlewoman was referring to.

Ms. PELOSI. The back to school act, so-called.

Mr. ARMEY. Oh, I am sorry. No, I do not expect to see that back on the floor, at least not next week.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, how long will the continuing resolution be?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, I want to thank the gentlewoman for the inquiry. There are consultations going on bicamerally and bipartisan in the highest leadership levels and with the two respective bodies' Committees of Appropriations, and that information has not yet been finally agreed to; and when it is, I expect the Speaker will make an announcement, as I would expect the majority leader in the other body to do so as well.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, my understanding is, the gentleman, when asked about this continuing resolution, if we are going to have a lame duck session, et cetera, said that he consults with Puff the Magic Dragon. Puff the Magic Dragon, lame duck, this place is getting more and more like a menagerie or some would say a zoo.

I have some concerns because today we voted on a resolution that urges the Senate to take certain action; but I know there is a bill that has overwhelmingly passed the Senate 78 to 21 that the Congressional Budget Office estimated would lower prescription drug prices by \$60 billion over the next 10 years, \$60 billion. Can the majority leader inform us if that bill will be scheduled before Congress adjourns in October, heeding the gentleman's concern about not following up on business completed by the Senate?

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her inquiry, and I understand that perhaps the animal rights caucus may be a little bit concerned about some of the examples we use around here. We do consult with magic dragons, indeed tolerate lame ducks in our committed effort to keep pork off the floor of this House.

That having been said, with respect to the bill the gentlewoman has asked about, this bill is a poor and paltry substitute for a comprehensive prescription drug benefit for American seniors. The House passed a bipartisan comprehensive Medicare prescription drug benefit in June. The Senate has not yet passed a bill. This bill is quite simply not good enough for those of us in the House who did the hard work to pass a real prescription drug benefit bill available to all American seniors, and it remains our hope that we will be able to pass a real prescription drug bill before the end of this year.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, perhaps the gentleman did not hear me. He said that the Senate had not passed a bill. The Senate had passed it 78 to 21, the prescription drug bill relating to generic drugs which would lower the cost by \$60 billion over 10 years, according

to the Congressional Budget Office. We have a discharge petition to that end to bring it to the floor. I urge our colleagues to sign it, but it was passed by the Senate, contrary to the gentleman's comment that the Senate had not passed a prescription drug bill.

We now have 4 legislative working days until the end of the fiscal year. We also have eight appropriations bills to fund the entire government, and the House has yet to consider them. Are there any appropriations bills that will be considered to be scheduled next week or the week after so that Members can be prepared?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, I want to thank the gentlewoman for her inquiry with respect to the appropriations bills. We continue to work on our efforts to maintain the commitments we have made to not only the President's budget recommendation but this House's own passed budget, and those remaining appropriations bills, while insofar as we are able we work on those bills with respect to which we have gotten to conference with the other body, and it is our hope that at least some of those conferencing bills might come to the floor in the next week or two.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, there are no dates in particular.

Can the gentleman tell us when the Iraq resolution will be brought to the floor that was distributed to us today?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, I want to thank the gentlewoman for her inquiry. This is, of course, a matter of serious consideration by each Member of this Congress, as it is with the administration and the American people also sharing our concern here. The President has sent a resolution draft up before the two bodies of Congress. As my colleague knows, the President and his team continue to make information available through, many times, secured briefings to Members of Congress and through the committee process, when possible, before the American people. We would expect that the committees of jurisdiction on these matters would continue to work their will on this resolution and bring it to the floor.

It has been, I think, the insistence of the Speaker in matters especially of such gravity that we work through our normal process, respecting the jurisdictional rights and the expertise of the committees. So I would encourage the gentlewoman and all of my colleagues to watch as the committees work on this very important resolution; and I would, however, expect that we should see this resolution on the floor in the not-too-distant future. I hate to be so ambiguous, but I think it is only fair to the committee to give them the time to do their job as they see fit.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the seriousness with which the gentleman is treating the consideration of that resolution; and as soon as my colleague knows, I am sure he will let us know and when it will be brought to the floor.

There are many other issues that the American people are concerned about

that relate to education, to a prescription drug benefit, to access to health care, pension security. The list goes on and on; and as we come in for our 2-day-a-week work weeks in Washington, D.C., we are becoming less relevant to the problems that the American people are facing. It is almost as if they are saying to us, Earth to Congress, we are still here, we have these challenges in our economy and our workforce, et cetera, and get to work and get some of this done so that we can go forward.

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. PELOSI. I yield to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, if the gentlewoman would yield for a question to the majority leader, and I know the gentlewoman's interest. I just filed a few minutes ago the Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Foreign Operations Export Financing and Related Programs bill which had passed the committee last week and the subcommittee the week before.

□ 1545

While there are certainly differences of opinion on it, it is a bipartisan product; and I wonder if the gentleman can give us any indication when that bill might come to the floor.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. PELOSI. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, first, I thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) for filing the bill. I am very pleased about that. I will discuss the scheduling of it with the Speaker. We will schedule it as soon as possible.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the subcommittee of the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE), I have a great deal of interest when the bill comes to the floor as well. I associate myself with the questions asked by the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished majority leader.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2002

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2002

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, September 23, 2002, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24, for morning hour debates.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PLATTS) 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:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2002, to the *Federal Register* for publication.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks in New York, Pennsylvania, and against the Pentagon committed on September 11, 2001, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. These actions pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, September 19, 2002.