

eggs, to diversify and manage their investments consistent with the advice of financial professional people throughout the country and consistent with the aims of their families.

My bill ensures that employees are informed about the real health of their pensions, it gives them the decision-making power to guide their investment, and it guarantees their representation on boards that guide their future economic security. My bill guarantees the right of employees to make decisions about their pension contribution by repealing current rules that prohibit employees from deciding where to invest the money that belongs to them.

Pension money and assets, whether invested by the employee or contributed by the employer, represent compensation to the employee and the employee is not to be denied the control of that. It is not compensation to the pension plan or manager; it is compensation to the employee for services rendered to the corporation.

I urge my colleagues to join in the cosponsorship of this legislation that is designed to provide employees the pension freedom that they need to secure retirement for their families.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, as a Nation make us strong in virtue and in our desire to do what You require of us as Your people.

Increase our faith, that our defense may be secure and that we may be forthright in the face of enemies.

At the same time hold us in Your truth, that we may never be arrogant in the sight of others but one with them in facing the problems of our times and most caring to those who are suffering, in most need of Your mercy and our attention.

As justice guides our conscience, may compassion draw our hearts to Your charting the course of history.

Bless the Members of Congress today and every day of this session.

Be with all those whom they will welcome to this Chamber this evening.

Guide and protect the President of the United States as he speaks to this body and this Nation. May Your Spirit inspire him as he describes the state of our Union and does all in his power to strengthen the soul of this Nation.

Led by Divine Providence since the founding of this great Nation, we place our trust in You, O Lord, for our destiny and our lasting peace are in Your hands above all, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair desires to announce that the practice of reserving seats prior to the joint session by placard or otherwise will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats by physical presence only following the security sweep of the Chamber.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 25, 2002.

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, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on January 25, 2002 at 3:06 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a waiver pursuant to sec. 902 of PL 101-246 concerning China.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, *Clerk of the House.*

WAIVER CONCERNING CHINA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-177)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 902 of the Foreign Rela-

tions Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991 (Public Law 101-246) (the "Act"), and as President of the United States, I hereby report to the Congress that it is in the national interest of the United States to terminate the suspensions under section 902 of the Act insofar as such suspensions pertain to the export of defense articles or defense services in support of efforts by the Government of Japan to destroy Japanese chemical weapons abandoned during World War II in the People's Republic of China. License requirements remain in place for these exports and require review and approval on a case-by-case basis by the United States Government.

GEORGE W. BUSH,
THE WHITE HOUSE, January 25, 2002.

LAID-OFF ENRON EMPLOYEES NEED HELP

(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, today we will hear the State of the Union presented by the President of the United States. We all have collectively indicated our support for the effort to fight terrorism and secure our homeland.

But coming from Houston, Texas, I would like to raise another issue, to put a human face on the loss being experienced by the laid-off employees at Enron. And add my sympathy as well to the Baxter family. Some of these Enron employees will be with us today. I would hope that the Congress would act to help to give them relief, individuals who are innocent and have lost much of their livelihood, the ability to protect and provide for their family.

I believe that Congress can act, and Congress and the administration should respond to these individuals, hard-working taxpayers who now have found themselves without any opportunity for work primarily because much of what is owed to them is caught up in the judicial system. Our Congress and the administration can stand up and be counted with these families, and I hope we will do so.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALDEN of Oregon). 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 5 p.m. today.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2002, TO FILE REPORTS ON H.R. 3400, NETWORKING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH ADVANCEMENT ACT, AND H.R. 3394, CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Science have until midnight on Thursday, January 31 to file the reports to accompany H.R. 3400 and H.R. 3394.

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

There was no objection.

HONORING LIFE OF DAVE THOMAS

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 336) honoring the life of Rex David "Dave" Thomas and expressing the deepest condolences of the House of Representatives to his family on his death.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 336

Whereas the House of Representatives has learned with great sadness of the death of Dave Thomas from liver cancer at the age of 69 on January 8, 2002;

Whereas Dave Thomas, born in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on July 2, 1932, and adopted shortly thereafter by Rex and Auleva Thomas, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, was a lifelong advocate and activist for the cause of adoption;

Whereas Dave Thomas, in 1979, was awarded the Horatio Alger Award for dedication, individual initiative, and a commitment to excellence, as exemplified by remarkable achievements accomplished through honesty, hard work, self-reliance, and perseverance;

Whereas from 1990 until 2000 Dave Thomas was the national spokesman for numerous White House adoption and foster care initiatives;

Whereas Dave Thomas received numerous awards, including the Angel in Adoption Award by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption, for generating awareness of the thousands of children waiting for permanent homes and loving families;

Whereas Dave Thomas, in 1992, established the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption and donated his speaking fees and profits from sales of his books, "Dave's Way, Well Done!" and "Franchising for Dummies", to adoption causes;

Whereas Dave Thomas established the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption to work with national adoption organizations, individuals, and public and private agencies to raise awareness about children awaiting adoption and to provide direct support for programs seeking to find permanent homes for children in foster care;

Whereas Dave Thomas established the Dave Thomas Center for Adoption Law to ease and facilitate the adoption process through education, advocacy, and research;

Whereas Dave Thomas was a constructive force in shaping corporate health policy to cover adoption expenses and, through his efforts, 75 percent of Fortune 1000 companies now offer adoption benefits to their employees;

Whereas Dave Thomas received the 2001 Social Awareness Award from the United States Postal Service for being instrumental in the use of the Adoption Awareness postage stamp as a vehicle for highlighting the cause of adoption;

Whereas Dave Thomas founded Wendy's Old-Fashioned Hamburgers in Columbus, Ohio, on November 15, 1969, and transformed it into one of the most successful food franchises in the country and, in promoting Wendy's, became a national figure representing a friendly face, good food, and a kind sense of humor;

Whereas Dave Thomas, in 1993, 45 years after leaving school, earned his GED certificate and received his high school diploma from Coconut Creek High School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, securing him as role model to students of all ages; and

Whereas Dave Thomas used his financial success to promote and advance the cause of adoption: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes that America has lost one of its most dedicated and hardest working advocates for adoption, and honors him in his devotion to family, life, and business; and

(2) expresses its deep and heartfelt condolences to the family of Dave Thomas on their loss.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 336.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the House consider House Resolution 336, an important resolution introduced by the distinguished gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE). This resolution recognizes and honors the remarkable life of Dave Thomas and expresses the House of Representatives' condolences to his family on his recent death.

Mr. Speaker, Dave Thomas, founder and chairman of Wendy's International, passed away on January 8, 2002, from cancer. Dave Thomas was an extraordinary man. Thomas founded Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers Restaurants in 1969 and named the company after one of his daughters. This restaurant chain grew explosively to more than 6,000 locations worldwide. Dave Thomas was a successful businessman. He also shared his humor, friendliness and humility with the American public which was evident through his television commercials.

But his legacy does not consist of his business success alone. Dave Thomas energetically championed an issue that is close to my heart, adoption. I am the father of two adopted children and a

Member of the House Adoption Caucus. I understand Mr. Thomas' passion for making sure that all our children are wanted, loved and provided with a nurturing home.

Thomas was himself adopted, and he became a passionate advocate for adoption. In 1992 he created the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. The foundation's goal was simple and straightforward but profound: Every child will have a permanent home and loving family.

Mr. Thomas has testified before Congress in support of adoption tax credits and adoption legislation, appeared in several television public service announcements, and led an initiative to create the adoption stamp that was issued by the U.S. Postal Service in May 2000. He also established the Dave Thomas Center for Adoption Law to facilitate the adoption process through education advocacy and research.

Dave Thomas worked hard to advance the cause of adoption and heightened awareness in our country about the fact that all children deserve the love and security of a family. For this achievement alone, Mr. Speaker, Dave Thomas earned the respect and gratitude of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members to support this resolution.

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I am pleased to join with the gentleman from Florida, chairman of the Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization, in consideration of this resolution. I also want to commend the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. PRYCE) for her sensitivity in introducing this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, Dave Thomas, founder of Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers Restaurants, died of cancer on January 8. In a tribute to Thomas, Wendy's web page notes that "Dave was much more than Wendy's founder and senior spokesman. He was a mentor to many hundreds of people he personally helped and thousands who have been inspired by his leadership."

Born in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on July 2, 1932, Mr. Thomas was adopted by Rex and Auleva Thomas of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and became a lifelong advocate and activist for the cause of adoption. Thousands have been inspired by his leadership and personal commitment to finding homes for children in foster care.

Mr. Thomas was a talented and dedicated businessman, but he was also a leader who accepted the challenge of ensuring that every child has a permanent and loving home. Every day in this country, more than three children die as a result of abuse or neglect. In 1997, an estimated 1,197 children died as a result of abuse or neglect. Seventy-seven percent of those children died before reaching their third birthday. Dave Thomas was their advocate and their friend.