

Mr. Speaker, I have said in the past that doing business with Cuba means doing business with Castro. So long as Castro maintains his stranglehold on every aspect of Cuban life, allowing Americans to travel to Cuba would mean subsidizing Castro. Most Cuban tourist operations are run by the Cuban military and internal security services. These so-called "companies" funnel money directly into the regime, earning them the hard currency necessary to perpetuate their repressive policies. Contrary to popular belief, increased tourist travel to the island would not increase purposeful contact with the Cuban people. Canadians and Europeans have been traveling to Cuba for years, and yet there has been no measurable impact on or change in Castro's control over his people.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, 98 percent of Cuban citizens are forbidden even entry into the tourist areas, which is Fidel Castro's way of denying foreigners the ability to gain a glimpse into the reality of Cuban life. Those Cubans who do work at the resorts are forbidden to engage in certain types of conversations with foreigners, including any mention of Cuba's political situation, the U.S. embargo, and other such issues.

Citizens who work at the resorts are employed by a State employment agency run by the Castro regime. The foreign resorts pay the worker's wages to the state agency in dollars, but the worker receives only pesos. Therefore, between 95 percent and 97 percent of a worker's wages are kept by Castro.

Mr. Speaker, by lifting travel sanctions with nothing in exchange from the Cuban Government, we are betraying the very people these policies were designed to help. By allowing American citizens to sip drinks on Cuba's coastline, we are turning our backs on the journalists and pro-democracy advocates that are wasting away in Cuba's jails. I urge my colleagues to join with me and oppose any attempts to lift travel restrictions and to remain committed to their support for the Cuban people.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for July 14 through 16 on account of personal reasons.

Mr. JANKLOW (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mr. HAYWORTH (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of medical 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. HINCHEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HINCHEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SOLIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WYNN, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WAXMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, July 16.

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, for 5 minutes, July 16.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. HINOJOSA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. Linda T. Sanchez of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GRIJALVA, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1233. An act to authorize assistance for the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center; to the Committee on Resources and the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 1280. An act to amend the PROTECT Act to clarify certain volunteer liability; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 709—An act to award a congressional gold medal to Prime Minister Tony Blair.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3180. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 01-08, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3181. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of the Navy, Case Number 99-09C, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); to the Committee on Appropriations.

3182. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Payment Bonds on Cost-Reimbursement Contracts [DFARS Case 2002-D030] received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3183. A letter from the Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — TRICARE; Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children Overseas (RIN: 0720-AA75) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3184. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Food Labeling: Trans Fatty Acids in Nutrition Labeling, Nutrient Content Claims, and Health Claims [Docket No. 94P-0036] (RIN: 0910-AB66) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3185. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Antidiarrheal Drug Products for Over-the-Counter Human Use; Final Monograph; Correction [Docket No. 78N-036D] (RIN: 0910-AA01) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3186. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Tires [Docket No. NHTSA-03-15400] (RIN: 2127-A154) received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3187. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Child Restraint Systems, Child Restraint Anchorage Systems [Docket No. NHTSA-03-15438] (RIN: 2127-AH99) received June 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3188. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Virginia: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7516-4] received July 7, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3189. A letter from the Legal Advisor, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review — Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted

Pursuant to Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 [MB Docket 02-277]; Cross-Ownership of Broadcast Stations and Newspapers [MM Docket No. 01-235]; Rules and Policies Concerning Multiple Ownership of Radio Broadcast Stations in Local Markets [MM Docket No.01-317]; Definition of Radio Markets [MM Docket 00-244]; Definition of Radio Markets for Areas Not Located in an Arbitron Survey Area [MB Docket 03-130] Received July 15, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

3190. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting a copy of Transmittal No. 12-03 which informs of an intent to sign a Project Agreement between the United States, Australia, Italy, and the United Kingdom concerning C-130J Co-operative Systems and Software Upgrade Requirements Management (COSSURM), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2767(f); to the Committee on International Relations.

3191. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed request for the sale of defense articles or defense services sold commercially to Saudia Arabia, Norway and France (Transmittal No. DDTC 016-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

3192. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles that are firearms controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List sold commercially under a contract to Norway (Transmittal No. DDTC 055-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

3193. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to Japan (Transmittal No. DDTC 047-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

3194. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles that are firearms controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List sold commercially under a contract to Israel (Transmittal No. DDTC 046-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

3195. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles that are firearms controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List sold commercially under a contract to Israel (Transmittal No. DDTC 046-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

3196. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of major defense equipment and defense articles to Denmark (Transmittal No. DDTC 044-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

3197. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed amendment to a license for the export of defense services, technical data and defense articles abroad to the United Kingdom (Transmittal No. DDTC 052-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

3198. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially to the United Kingdom (Transmittal No. DDTC 049-03), pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

3199. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — 31 CFR chapter V — received June 23, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

3200. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-107, "Additional Use of the Reserve Funds Omnibus Temporary Act of 2003," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

3201. A letter from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Government Reform.

3202. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery [Docket No. 030409081-3154-02; I.D. 032103B] (RIN: 0648-AQ72) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

3203. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Washington Sport Fisheries [Docket No. 030124019-3040-02; I.D. 061903C] (RIN: 0648-AQ67) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

3204. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area and Safety Zone; Huntington Cleveland Harborfest and Parade of Sail, Cleveland, OH July 9-14, 2003 [CGD09-03-206] (RIN: 1625-AA00, 1625-AA11) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3205. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Mission Creek Waterway, China Basin, San Francisco Bay, California [COTP San Francisco Bay 03-004] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3206. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point, Cape Fear River, Brunswick County, NC [CGD05-03-074] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3207. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Bogue Sound, Morehead City, NC [CGD05-03-072] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Com-

mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3208. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone: Protection of High Capacity Passenger Vessels in Prince William Sound, Alaska [COTP-PWS-03-003] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3209. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone: Swimming Across San Juan Harbor, San Juan, Puerto Rico [COTP SAN JUAN-03-104] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3210. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands [COTP San Juan-03-113] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3211. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Lake Michigan, Chicago, IL [CGD09-03-222] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3212. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Gary Air and Water Show, Lake Michigan, Gary IN [CGD09-03-235] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3213. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Brooks Memorial (S.E. 17th Street) Bridge, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway mile 1065.9, Fort Lauderdale, Florida [CGD07-03-076] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3214. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Toledo Tall Ships Parade, July 16, 2003, Port of Toledo, OH [CGD09-03-208] (RIN: 1625-AA08, 1625-AA09, 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3215. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Bay City Tall Ship Celebration, Saginaw River, August 14-18, 2003 [CGD09-03-204] (RIN: 1625-AA09, 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3216. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Sacramento River, Sacramento, CA [COTP San Francisco Bay 03-019] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3217. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Cape

Fear River, Eagle Island, North Carolina State Port Authority Terminal, Wilmington, NC [CGD05-03-073] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3218. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Red Bull Wings Over Cleveland, Cleveland, OH [CGD09-03-232] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3219. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Handling of Class 1 (Explosive) Materials or Other Dangerous Cargoes within or Contiguous to Waterfront Facilities [USCG-1998-4302] (RIN: 1625-AA07 (Formerly RIN: 2115-AE22)) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3220. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Recognition of Organizations and Accreditation of Representatives, Attorneys, and Agents (RIN: 2900-AI93) received July 7, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

3221. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Elimination of User Fees for Certain Determination Letter Requests Pursuant to Section 620 of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 (Notice 2003-49) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3222. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Changes in Annual Accounting Period (Announcement 2003-49) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3223. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Treatment of Community Income for Certain Individuals not Filing Joint Returns [TD 9074] (RIN: 1545-AY83) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3224. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Certain Exchanges of Insurance Policies (Notice 2003-51) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3225. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Effect of Section 338(h)(10) Elections in Certain Multi-step Transactions [REG-143679-02] (RIN: 1545-BB68) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3226. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Disclosure of Return Information by Certain Officers and Employees for Investigative Purposes [TD 9073] (RIN: 1545-BB17) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3227. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Tax on Reversion Of Qualified Plan Assets to Employer (Rev. Rul. 2003-85) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3228. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Catch-Up Contributions for Individuals Age 50 or Older [TD 9072] (RIN: 1545-BA24) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3229. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Authority to charge fees for furnishing copies of exempt organizations' material open to public inspection under IRC Section 6104 [TD 9070] (RIN: 1545-BB22) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3230. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Changes in Accounting Periods and Methods of Accounting (Rev. Proc. 2003-62) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3231. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Definition of Guaranteed Annuity and Lead Unitrust Interests [TD 9068] (RIN: 1545-A031) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

3232. A letter from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Rents from Real Property (Rev. Rul. 2003-86) received July 14, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. THOMAS: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 2473. A bill to amend title XVII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize the Medicare Program, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 108-178 Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. NEY; Committee on House Administration. House Resolution 317. Resolution dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Second Congressional District of Hawaii (Rept. 108-207). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NEY; Committee on House Administration. House Resolution 318. Resolution dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Sixth Congressional District of Tennessee (Rept. 108-208). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 319. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2691) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 and for other purposes (Rept. 108-209). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 1720. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, establishing, and updating patient care facilities at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers; with amendments (Rept. 108-210). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 2297. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify and

improve certain benefits for veterans, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 108-211). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. QUINN, and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida):

H.R. 2725. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program for the rehabilitation, preservation, or improvement of railroad track; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. CARSON of Indiana (for herself, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. LEE, and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 2726. A bill to establish a national rail passenger transportation system, reauthorize Amtrak, improve security and service on Amtrak, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GREENWOOD (for himself, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HOFFFEL, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. NADLER, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. FILNER, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FROST, Mr. WU, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. BELL, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. SHAYS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. VISLOSKEY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. OSE, and Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut):

H.R. 2727. A bill to require equitable coverage of prescription contraceptive drugs and devices, and contraceptive services under health plans; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NORWOOD:

H.R. 2728. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to provide for adjudicative flexibility with regard to an employer filing of a notice of contest following the issuance of a citation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NORWOOD:

H.R. 2729. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to provide for greater efficiency at the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NORWOOD:

H.R. 2730. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to provide for