

Science and the Committee on Government Reform due to my pending appointment to the Committee on Financial Services.

Sincerely,

REP. CHRIS BELL.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 505), and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 505

Resolved, That the following Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE: Mr. HALL (to rank after Mr. TAUZIN), and Mr. SULLIVAN.

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: Mr. BLUNT to rank after Mr. MCHUGH.

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE: Mr. HALL to rank after Mr. BOEHLERT.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 504) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 504

Resolved, That the following named Member be and is hereby elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES: Mr. Bell.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), my friend, the distinguished majority leader, for the purpose of informing us of the schedule.

Mr. DELAY. I thank the distinguished minority whip for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, the House will convene on Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. for morning

hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. We will consider several measures under suspension of the rules, and a final list of those bills will be sent to the Members' offices by the end of the week. Any votes called on these measures will be rolled until 6:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, the House will convene at 10 a.m. At 11 a.m. a joint meeting of Congress will convene to receive Spanish President Jose Maria Aznar. Following President Aznar's speech, we plan to consider H.R. 3030, the Improving the Community Services Block Grant Act.

Finally, to accommodate scheduling demands next week, similar to those that we have this week, the House will not have votes next Thursday or Friday.

I thank the gentleman for yielding and would be happy to answer any questions he may have.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman; and I understand that the accommodation we are making this week and next week is so that we can hopefully, both of our respective parties, can determine where we are going to go and, as the President suggested at the White House, perhaps come together and try to take such action as we can agree upon be positive for our country. So I appreciate that accommodation for us as for the gentleman's group as well.

My colleague talked about we are going to do the community service block grant reauthorization next week. Will amendments and/or a substitute be allowed to the community service block grant bill?

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, I would reserve answering that question. I believe there is going to be an announcement by the Committee on Rules following this colloquy, and I think the gentleman will be very pleased with that announcement; but I would reserve that the Committee on Rules ought to make that decision and announcement.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the leader, and I will wait with great expectation to be pleased by the announcement of the Committee on Rules, which will not be totally without precedent but not usual. I thank the gentleman for his observation.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. DELAY. 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.

ADJOURNMENT FROM WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2004 TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House ad-

journs today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Friday, January 30, 2004.

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

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2004 TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Friday, January 30, 2004, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3 for morning hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3030, IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ACT OF 2003

(Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet next week to grant a rule for the consideration of H.R. 3030, Improving the Community Services Block Grant Act of 2003, which may require that amendments be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to their consideration on the floor.

The Committee on Education and the Workforce ordered the bill reported on October 1, 2003, and filed its report with the House on October 10, 2003. Members should draft their amendments to the bill as reported by the Committee on Education and the Workforce. Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the gentleman was on the floor when the majority leader and I had our weekly colloquy, and he said I was going to be very pleased, I was pleased to hear the information, of course, as to how one perfects an amendment that needs to be made in order, but I did not hear anything about whether or not the Committee on Rules is going to grant, as I asked the leader, the ability of the minority to offer any substitute and/or offer substantive amendments.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Reclaiming my time, Mr.

Speaker, I would say to the gentleman that the Committee on Rules, as this announcement stated, may meet, I believe may very likely meet on this, and the Committee on Rules will obviously consider any request from any Members with regard to amendments. If the gentleman from Maryland or any other Members have amendments, we will be more than glad to listen to them and will give them all the merited courtesies.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much that warm assurance that the gentleman from Florida will be glad to listen to me or to others.

I am a big fan of Martina McBride. I do not know if the gentleman is familiar with her. She is one of the great country music singers in America, and she has a song, the title of which is "I know you can hear me, but are you listening." And I know you may hear me, but I want you to be listening as well.

As the gentleman knows, as he is a long-time distinguished member of the Committee on Rules, we are very hopeful we will start this session off on the right foot and that the minority will be given, as your minority asked when you were in the minority, for the opportunity to offer amendments and substitutes so that our perspective can be considered as well as the majority's perspective. We think that serves the American people well. We think it is what you asked for when you were in the minority. We believe we gave it to you most of the time. You are correct, not all the time.

But we would hope, and this bill I think is not one of the very contentious bills that we will take up perhaps during the session, but we would hope that that opportunity would be afforded the minority.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Once again reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for his comments and concerns, and as I stated before, what we are asking at this point, precisely because we will be looking very much forward to amendments, is that if any Members have ideas for such, is to please be ready with them because there may be a requirement that amendments be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD prior to consideration on the floor.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. 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 S. 610.

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

There was no objection.

PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION EXEMPTING U.S. AIR FORCE'S OPERATING LOCATION NEAR GROOM LAKE, NEVADA FROM DISCLOSURE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

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

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 6001(a) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (the "Act"), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6961(a), notification is hereby given that on September 16, 2003, I issued Presidential Determination 2003-39 (copy enclosed) and thereby exercised the authority to grant certain exemptions under section 6001(a) of the Act.

Presidential Determination 2003-39 exempted the United States Air Force's operating location near Groom Lake, Nevada, from any Federal, State, interstate, or local hazardous or solid waste laws that might require the disclosure of classified information concerning that operating location to unauthorized persons. Information concerning activities at the operating location near Groom Lake has been properly determined to be classified, and its disclosure would be harmful to national security. Continued protection of this information is, therefore, in the paramount interest of the United States.

The determination was not intended to imply that, in the absence of a Presidential exemption, RCRA or any other provision of law permits or requires the disclosure of classified information to unauthorized persons. The determination also was not intended to limit the applicability or enforcement of any requirement of law applicable to the Air Force's operating location near Groom Lake except those provisions, if any, that might require the disclosure of classified information.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 28, 2004.

CERTIFICATION OF AUSTRALIA GROUP PURSUANT TO CONDITION 7(C)(i) OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING, AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

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

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling, and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, adopted by the Senate of the United States on April 24, 1997, I hereby certify pursuant to Condition 7(C)(i), Effectiveness of the Australia Group, that:

Australia Group members continue to maintain equally effective or more comprehensive controls over the export of: toxic chemicals and their precursors; dual-use processing equipment; human, animal, and plant pathogens and toxins with potential biological weapons applications; and dual-use biological equipment, as that afforded by the Australia Group as of April 25, 1997; and

The Australia Group remains a viable mechanism for limiting the spread of chemical and biological weapons-related materials and technology, and the effectiveness of the Australia Group has not been undermined by changes in membership, lack of compliance with common export controls and nonproliferation measures, in force as of April 25, 1997.

The factors underlying this certification are described in the enclosed statement of justification.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 28, 2004.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS TO ANTITRUST MODERNIZATION COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11054 of the Antitrust Modernization Commission Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 1 Note), and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following members on the part of the House to the Antitrust Modernization Commission:

Mr. Donald G. Kempf, Jr., New York, New York, and

Mr. John L. Warden, New York, New York.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF SHELLEY MARSHALL

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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Shelley Marshall. Mrs. Marshall was a budget analyst for the Defense Intelligence Agency who was killed in the attack on the Pentagon.

I rise to commend the efforts of her husband, Donn Marshall, to honor her memory. Using his wife's retirement savings and money he expects to receive from the 9-11 Victims Compensation Fund, Donn established the Shelley A. Marshall Foundation. The foundation has held tea parties, one of Shelley's favorite pastimes, for senior citizens and high school students. The Marshall Foundation has also provided resources for story hours in libraries