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No. 14

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 6, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MAC THORNBERRY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Alan N. Keiran, Chief of Staff, Office of the U.S. Senate Chaplain, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, our Eternal Father whose majesty fills the universe, we give thanks for Your enduring mercy and steadfast love. We are mindful that every sunrise is a gift and every day an opportunity to honor You in thought, word, and deed.

Gracious Lord, we ask this morning for Your special blessing on our Nation's Representatives and those that so skillfully serve them here in our Nation's Capitol and in home districts. Grant them the wisdom, courage, discernment, and grace needed to nobly discharge their momentous duties.

Lord, may the radiant warmth of Your eternal providence continue to shine upon this great Republic. May all citizens of this noble land know the width, breadth, and depth of Your life-transforming presence.

I pray this in Your Holy Name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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 pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1612. An act to establish a technology, equipment, and information transfer program within the Department of Homeland Security.

The message also announced that pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 130 (One Hundred Sixth Congress), the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints the following individual to the Task Force on Slave Laborers:

Virginia Walden-Ford of Washington, D.C.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the House stands adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday next for morning hour debates.

There was no objection.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, February 10, 2004, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

6649. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Hazelnuts Grown in Oregon and Washington; Established of Interim Final and Final Free and Restricted Percentages for the 2003-2004 Marketing Year [Docket No. FV04-982-1 IFR] received February 2, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6650. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Onions Grown in South Texas; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV03-959-4FR] received February 2, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6651. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Milk in the Pacific Northwest Marketing Area; Interim Order Amending the Order [Docket No. AO-368-A30; DA-01-08-PNW] received February 2, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6652. A letter from the Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Almonds Grown in California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Docket No. FV04-981-1 IFR] received February 2, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6653. A letter from the Secretary, LOCAL Television Loan Guarantee Board, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — LOCAL Television Loan Guarantee Program (RIN: 0572-AB82) received January 28, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6654. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Agency Organization

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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[Docket No. 00-033F] (RIN: 0583-AC78) received January 26, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6655. A letter from the Acting Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; to the Committee on Appropriations.

6656. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of export of Items to Iraq in the National Interest of the United States pursuant to section 1504 of the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2003 (Transmittal No. DTC 011Z-04); to the Committee on International Relations.

6657. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the semi-annual report of the Inspector General for the 6-month period ending September 30, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6658. A letter from the Secretary, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Performance and Accountability Report for FY 2003; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6659. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting the Board's final rule — Employee Elections to Contribute to the Thrift Savings Plan, Participants' Choices of Investment Funds, Vesting, Uniformed Services Accounts, Correction of Administrative Errors, Lost Earnings Attributable to Employing Agency Errors, Participants Statements, Calculation of Shared Prices, Methods of Withdrawing Funds from the Thrift Savings Plan, Death Benefits, Domestic Relations Orders Affecting Thrift Savings Plan Accounts, Loans, Miscellaneous — received December 29, 2003, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6660. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy, GSA, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Circular 2001-19; Introduction — received January 28, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6661. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's Fiscal Year 2005 Performance Budget, in accordance with the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6662. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's Fiscal Year 2003 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

6663. A letter from the Director, Workforce Relations and Accountability Policy, Office

of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Implementation of Title II of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (RIN: 3206-AJ93) received January 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6664. A letter from the Director, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Information Technology Exchange Program (RIN: 3206-AK28) received January 23, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6665. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Annual Reports of Accomplishments Under the Airport Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 47131; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. SENSENBRENNER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 1073. A bill to repeal section 801 of the Revenue Act of 1916 (Rept. 108-415). 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. GIBBONS:

H.R. 3781. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize local educational agencies in rural areas to obtain a limited waiver of certain requirements relating to the employment of highly qualified teachers; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HYDE (for himself, Mr. LANTOS, and Mr. KIRK):

H.R. 3782. A bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to increase the maximum amount of an award available under the Department of State rewards program, to expand the eligibility criteria to receive an award, to authorize non-monetary awards, to publicize the existence of the rewards program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

257. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of The Mariana Islands, relative to House Joint Resolution No. 13-20 supporting the President of the United States of America, the people of the United States, and their allies throughout the world in the fight against terrorism; to the Committee on International Relations.

258. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of The Mariana Islands, relative to House Resolution No. 13-185, requesting the United States Congress to provide for a nonvoting delegate in the House of Representatives to represent the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; to the Committee on Resources.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 25: Mr. HOEKSTRA.

H.R. 290: Ms. WATSON and Mr. WAXMAN.

H.R. 742: Mr. EVERETT.

H.R. 857: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.

H.R. 1063: Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 1425: Mr. STARK.

H.R. 2028: Mr. CRAMER.

H.R. 2823: Mr. INSLEE.

H.R. 3213: Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. HOEKSTRA.

H.R. 3545: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. FILER, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. BECERRA, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. STARK.

H.R. 3550: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 3673: Mr. RANGEL.

H.R. 3771: Mr. TURNER of Texas.

H.J. Res. 22: Mr. CASE.

H. Con. Res. 218: Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

55. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, relative to Resolution 2004-1, supporting legislation to reauthorize the existing ban on assault weapons and any technical amendments designed to correct oversights in the original law that weaken the effects of the prohibition on assault weapons; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.