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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, bring the best possible resolve to work today for the common good of the people. As we anticipate the July 4 holiday, we ask Your blessing upon Your Nation and Your protection of our military forces. Provide safe travel and may peace await all at their final destination.

The American practice of coming together in prayer, relating faith to historic events and national celebrations has taught people with clashing creeds to stand united in religious tolerance and mutual respect. Perhaps, Lord, in doing so, America has been spared some of the religious conflicts that continue to afflict other places in the world.

So, Lord, on this forthcoming celebration of Independence Day, may we truly rejoice in our God-given right to freedom of religious expression. For in You, our God, we place our trust 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 gentlewoman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HERSETH 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 without amendment bills and a joint resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 884. An act to provide for the use and distribution of the funds awarded to the Western Shoshone identifiable group under Indian Claims Commission Docket Numbers 326-A-1, 326-A-3, and 326-K, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2751. An act to provide new human capital flexibilities with respect to the GAO, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4103. An act to extend and modify the trade benefits under the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

H.J. Res. 97. Joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill and concurrent resolutions of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2322. An act to amend chapter 90 of title 5, United States Code, to include employees of the District of Columbia courts as participants in long term care insurance for Federal employees.

S. Con. Res. 83. Concurrent resolution promoting the establishment of a democracy caucus within the United States.

S. Con. Res. 120. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 7102(a)(ii) of Public Law 108-132, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Parents Advisory Council on Youth Drug Abuse:

Laurens Tullock of Tennessee.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain 5 one-minute speeches per side.

HELPING DISADVANTAGED YOUTHS

(Mr. OSBORNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday H.R. 4703 was introduced in response to a report issued by the White House Task Force for Disadvantaged Youth. The findings of the study are as follows:

Number one, 10 million American teens are plagued by poverty, abuse and neglect, academic failure and substance abuse.

Number two, the Federal Government has created 355 programs to serve youth in response to these deficits and afflictions. The result has been chaotic. Two-thirds of the programs evaluated by OMB were rated ineffective or redundant.

This bill would create a Federal Youth Development Council. The Council is charged with, number one, improving and coordinating youth-serving programs; number two, issuing an annual report on youth programs and their effectiveness; and, number three, setting quantifiable goals and developing a plan for each program.

This legislation will allow more children in need to be served more effectively. It is supported by an overwhelming majority of youth agencies. I urge support of H.R. 4703.

CARING FOR OUR VETERANS

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

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, Americans know that we have asked a great deal of our uniformed men and women over the life of this Republic in preserving liberty at home and fostering liberty abroad. We continue to ask for and receive tremendous sacrifices from

☐ 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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the members of our Armed Forces today.

As we do this, however, we must not forget that we are now creating a new generation of veterans. We must acknowledge our obligation to this generation of heroes who deserve what has been promised them, particularly in the areas of health care, disability compensation and educational opportunities.

Supporting our troops means, among other things, providing them with the resources to get the job done in the dangerous situations in which we have put them; but it also means ensuring that we know and understand our troops' needs when they return home and how to best meet those needs.

Over the next week, as we celebrate the anniversary of our independence, I will be traveling across South Dakota, meeting with the family members of troops whose National Guard and Reserve units have been deployed. I will listen to their stories and concerns, and I will share my commitment to them to respect and honor the sacrifices their loved ones are making. It is in this spirit that I commit to working with my colleagues to adequately acknowledge what is owed to our veterans and to provide it to them both today and in the decades to come.

HONORING ROLLAND B. "BOB" LYONS

(Mr. McCOTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, on June 17 a friend to our community, Mr. Rolland B. "Bob" Lyons passed away following a courageous fight with cancer in which his courage never faltered or failed. Enduring and self-effacing, this entrepreneurial genius and civic leader, who used to like to call himself "just a ditch digger from Ann Arbor," was a truly unique character.

He had a massive toy collection. He created a reproduction of a 19th century hardware store in his office. And most of all, he liked to wear some of the most outrageous seersucker suits and bow ties that you would ever see, at least back home in Michigan.

Bob was probably one of the people in life that you would meet that you could not but befriend. I would like to extend my condolences to his family and to all who, in knowing Bob Lyons, could not but love him.

MEDICARE LOTTERY

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday it was reported that the pharmaceutical industries and HMO industries spent \$141 billion with the prescription drug bill. With the Medicare bill, taxpayers will give HMOs an additional \$46

billion and they will give the pharmaceutical industry an additional \$139 billion.

Where else in America can you invest \$141 and get a \$185 billion return on your money? The GOP Congress, but of course.

By overpaying private insurance companies, denying the Secretary of Health and Human Services the ability to negotiate for lower prices and blocking the free market from working and allowing Americans to get safe, affordable drugs from Canada and Europe, the Medicare bill is everything the HMOs and pharmaceutical companies paid for and requested.

We are doing everything we can in this bill except the things that will actually lower prescription drug prices.

Yesterday the Bush administration announced that they will provide drug coverage to patients with some serious diseases, less than 10 percent of them though. They will decide which seriously ill individuals will get their Medicare coverage now by the lottery. There are 600,000 people eligible for medical coverage, but we are denying this coverage to 90 percent of them, cancer patients, people with multiple sclerosis, and arthritis. We can do better in lowering the prices of drugs than by lottery.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4614, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 694 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 694

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4614) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI are waived except as follows: beginning with "Provided" on page 2, line 23, through page 3, line 5; sections 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, and 311; beginning with "Provided" on page 39, line 23, through page 40, line 4; and section 502. Where points of order are waived against part of a paragraph, points of order against a provision in another part of such paragraph may be made only against such provision and not against the entire paragraph. During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member of-

fering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

The resolution before the House today provides for consideration of the 2005 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill under an open rule that provides for 1 hour of general debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations.

It waives all points of order against consideration of the bill, and under the rules of the House, the bill shall be considered for amendment by paragraph. The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill as amended for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI except as specified in the resolution.

It authorizes the chairman to accord priority in recognition to Members who have been preprinted their amendments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and finally it provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the rule for H.R. 4614, the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2005. This legislation provides for a total of \$28 billion in new discretionary spending authority for the civil U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Interior, the Department of Energy and several associated Independent Agencies.

I would like to thank my friend, the chairman, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON), for his leadership and vision in crafting this legislation and for striking a good balance between existing prudent fiscal restraint and funding our Nation's energy and water development priorities.

This bill increases funding for our Nation's energy and water priorities at \$734.5 million above 2004 levels, and \$49.6 million above the President's budget request, while ensuring that this money is spent wisely on programs that also reflect the needs and the core missions that its agencies find within their mission statements.

This legislation adequately funds the Corps of Engineers and concentrates its resources on helping to fulfill its traditional missions such as flood control, shoreline protection, navigation and