# H5166

# CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

Scott (VA)

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NOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. GGERT) (during the vote). Members e advised there are 2 minutes remaing in this vote.

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#### □ 1910

So (two-thirds having voted in favor ereof) the rules were suspended and e concurrent resolution was agreed

The result of the vote was announced above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on ie table.

Stated for:

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, duirng rollcall te No. 327 on H. Con. Res. 257 I was unoidably detained. Had I been present, I ould have voted "yea."

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall b. 327, I was unavoidably detained in my ingressional District, and I missed the vote. d I been present, I would have voted "yea."

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. COLLINS. Madam Speaker, I was not present for debate on the Energy and Water Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2005 (H.R. 4614), rollcall vote 320, a vote on the Previous Question; rollcall vote 321, an amendment by SANDERS; rollcall vote 322, an amendment by WILSON (NM); rollcall vote 323, an amendment

by MEEHAN; rollcall vote 324, an amendment by HEFLEY; rollcall vote 325, final passage for H.R. 4614. Additionally, I was not present for rollcall vote 326, Recognizing the Marshall Islands (H. Con. Res. 410); and rollcall vote 327, Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harry Colmery (H. Con. Res. 257).

Had I been present, I would have voted "vea" for rollcall votes 320, 324, 325, 326, and 327. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 321, 322, and 323.

## JUST WHAT THIS COUNTRY NEEDS

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

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, the Democrats have chosen a trial lawyer as their vice presidential nominee. Now that is just what this country needs, a trial lawyer in the second most powerful position in the United States. That is just what America needs, a well-positioned trial lawyer who can make certain we sue more health care providers, sue more hospitals and drug companies. That is just what America needs, a trial lawyer who can ensure we sue more manufacturers and corporations.

If trial lawyers have not driven our health care costs out of sight and our job overseas, we need to give them a better platform to finish the job.

Let us be frank, Madam Speaker, America needs a trial lawyer at the helm like Custer needed another Indian at Big Horn. However, there might be a bright side to having more trial lawyers in Washington, since the courts have given terrorists the right to have their own lawyers. At least now we will have something positive for more trial lawyers to do here.

UNITED STATES-AUSTRALIA FREE AGREEMENT-MESSAGE TRADE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-199)

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 Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents prepared by my Administration to implement the United States-Australia Free Trade Agreement (FTA). This Agreement adds an important dimension to our bilateral relationship with a steadfast ally in the global economic and strategic arena. This FTA will enhance the prosperity of the people of the United States and Australia, serve the interest of expanding U.S. commerce, and advance our overall national interest.

My Administration is committed to securing a level playing field and creating opportunities for America's workers, farmers, and businesses. The

United States and Australia already enjoy a strong trade relationship. The U.S.-Australia FTA will further open Australia's market for U.S. manufactured goods, agricultural products, and services, and will promote new growth in our bilateral trade. As soon as this FTA enters into force, tariffs will be eliminated on almost all manufactured goods traded between our countries. providing significant export opportunities for American manufacturers. American farmers will also benefit due to the elimination of tariffs on all exports of U.S. agricultural products.

The U.S.-Australia FTA will also benefit small- and medium-sized businesses and their employees. Such firms already account for a significant amount of bilateral trade. The market opening resulting from this Agreement presents opportunities for those firms looking to start or enhance participation in global trade.

In negotiating this FTA, my Administration was guided by the negotiating objectives set out in the Trade Act of 2002. The Agreement's provisions on agriculture represent a balanced response to those seeking improved access to Australia's markets, through immediate elimination of tariffs on U.S. exports and mechanisms to resolve sanitary and phytosanitary issues and facilitate trade between our countries, while recognizing the sensitive nature of some U.S. agricultural sectors and their possible vulnerability to increased imports.

The U.S.-Australia FTA also reinforces the importance of creativity and technology to both of our economies. the Agreement includes rules providing for strong protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights, promotes the use of electronic commerce, and provides for increased cooperation between our agencies on addressing anticompetitive practices, financial services, telecommunications, and other matters.

The Agreement memorializes our shared commitment to labor and environmental issues. The United States and Australia have worked in close cooperation on these issues in the past and will pursue this strategy and commitment to cooperation in bilateral and global fora in the future.

With the approval of this Agreement and passage of the implementing legislation by the Congress, we will advance U.S. economic, security, and political interests, and set an example of the benefits of free trade and democracy for the world.

> GEORGE W. BUSH. THE WHITE HOUSE, July 6, 2004.

#### □ 1915

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PRO-VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4754, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RE-LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA-TIONS ACT, 2005

Mr. LINDER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-583) on the resolution (H. Res. 701) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4754) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMEND-MENTS TO H.R. 3574, STOCK OP-TION ACCOUNTING REFORM ACT

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, the Rules Committee may meet this week to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 3574, the Stock Option Accounting Reform Act. The Committee on Financial Services ordered the bill reported on June 15, 2004, and has yet to file its report with the House.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in room H-312 of the Capitol by 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 8. Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill, as reported, on June 15, the text of which will be available later this evening on both the Committee on Financial Services' and Committee on Rules' Web sites.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMEND-MENTS TO H.R. 2828, WATER SUP-PLY, RELIABILITY, AND ENVI-RONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet this week to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 2828, the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act. The Committee on Resources ordered the bill reported on May 5 of 2004 and filed its report with the House on June 25, 2004.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief

explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in room H-312 of the Capitol by 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 8. Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported by the Committee on Resources.

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 that their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### IRAQ'S TRANSITION: WHO ARE OUR ENEMIES AND WHY DO THEY HATE US

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Iraq's transition to democracy and what it holds for our future.

Mr. Speaker, like all Americans, I was pleasantly surprised on June 28 when the Coalition Provisional Authority transferred power to the Iraqi interim government 2 days ahead of schedule. This was an important first step toward demonstrating that America fulfills its promises. Iraq is again a self-governing sovereign state.

However, with that said, we face many challenges in the days ahead. The anti-democratic insurgency in Iraq is still a reality that we and the sovereign and legitimate government of Iraq must confront every day.

Mr. Speaker, in dealing with this insurgency, we must first ask ourselves the questions that opponents of the war in Iraq often fail to raise: Who are the insurgents? And why do they hate us and the new government in Iraq?

It is clear from studying this situation in Iraq, the insurgency is not made up of one group of people united around a common message. Rather, it is an insurgency based upon disparate groups with differing and conflicting agendas.

It is clear that we face an unholy alliance of four different, but overlapping, groups: Baathists, radical theocrats, transnational terrorists, and common criminals.

Each of these groups has differing objectives. The Baathists yearn for the day that they once again can control Iraq. This Fascist party formed the basis of the Hussein regime; and at its core it is corrupt, brutal, and antidemocratic.

The radical theocrats and fundamentalists, like Moqtada al Sadr, desire