

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the Speaker signed the following enrolled bills on Friday, February 3, 2006:

H.R. 4519, to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend funding for the operation of State high risk health insurance pools;

H.R. 4659, to amend the USA PATRIOT Act to extend the sunset of certain provisions of such act.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 6, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on February 6, 2006, at 2 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits his Budget of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2007.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

BUDGET OF THE UNITED STATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007—MES- SAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 109-79)

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 Appropriations and ordered to be printed:

THE BUDGET MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

America's economy is growing at a healthy pace, and more Americans are working than ever. In the face of a series of challenges, including most recently devastating natural disasters, Americans have stood firm, and America's economy has demonstrated its strength and resilience time and again.

My Administration has focused the Nation's resources on our highest priority: protecting our citizens and our homeland. Working with Congress, we have given our men and women on the frontlines in the War on Terror the funding they need to defeat the enemy and detect, disrupt, and dismantle terrorist plots and operations. We con-

tinue to help emerging democracies in Afghanistan and Iraq stand on their own. As the Afghan and Iraqi peoples assume greater responsibility for their own security and for defeating the terrorists, our troops will come home with the honor they have earned.

My Administration has responded to major economic challenges by following this vital principle: the American economy grows when people are allowed to keep more of what they earn, to save and spend as they see fit. The results are clear.

Since May 2003, when I signed into law major tax relief, America has added more than four and a half million new jobs. Productivity is high, disposable income is up, household wealth is at record levels, consumer confidence has climbed, small businesses are expanding, and more Americans own their homes than at any time in our Nation's history.

Our economy is the envy of the industrialized world. To build and maintain our competitive edge, my Administration has a broad agenda to promote America's long-term economic strength. We are opening new markets to American-made goods and services through trade agreements. We are proposing reforms to prevent needless litigation and burdensome regulations. Through major reforms of our public schools, we are preparing our children to compete and succeed in the global economy. And my Budget includes an American Competitiveness Initiative that targets funding to advance technology, better prepare American children in math and science, develop and train a high-tech workforce, and further strengthen the environment for private-sector innovation and entrepreneurship.

In our efforts to keep our economy strong and competitive, we will resist calls to raise taxes on America's workers, families, and businesses. Unless we act to make tax relief permanent, income tax rates eventually will rise, the marriage penalty will climb, the child tax credit will be cut, savers and investors will be hit with higher taxes, and the death tax will come back to life.

With a growing economy, tax receipts are on the rise, helping to bring down the deficit in 2005. To stay on track to meet my goal of cutting the deficit in half by 2009, we must maintain our pro-growth policies and insist on spending restraint.

Last year, I proposed to hold overall discretionary spending growth below the rate of inflation—and Congress delivered on that goal. Last year, I proposed that we focus our resources on defense and homeland security and cut elsewhere—and Congress delivered on that goal. And also last year, my Budget proposed major cuts in or eliminations of 154 programs that were not getting results and not fulfilling essential priorities. Thanks to the work of Congress, we delivered savings to the taxpayer of \$6.5 billion on 89 of my Administration's recommendations.

The 2007 Budget builds on these efforts. Again, I am proposing to hold overall discretionary spending below the rate of inflation and to cut spending in non-security discretionary programs below 2006 levels. My Administration has identified 141 programs that should be terminated or significantly reduced in size. To help bring greater accountability and transparency to the budget process, my Budget proposed reforms so that firm spending limits are put in place, and public funds are used for the best purposes with the broadest benefits.

The 2007 Budget also continues our efforts to improve performance and make sure the taxpayers get the most for their money. My Administration expects to be held accountable for significantly improving the way the Government works. In every program, and in every agency, we are measuring success not by good intentions or by dollars spent, but rather by results achieved.

In the long term, the biggest challenge to our Nation's fiscal health comes from unsustainable growth in entitlement spending. Entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare are growing faster than our ability to pay for them, faster than the economy, faster than the rate of inflation, and faster than the population. As more baby boomers retire and collect their benefits, our deficits are projected to grow. There will be fewer people paying into the system, and more retirees collecting benefits. These unfunded liabilities will put an increasing burden on our children and our grandchildren. We do not need to cut these programs, but we do need to slow their growth. We can solve this problem and still meet our Nation's commitment to the elderly, disabled, and poor.

Acting on my recommendations, both houses of Congress have taken an important first step, passing legislation that would produce \$40 billion in savings from mandatory programs and entitlement reforms—the first such savings in nearly a decade. My budget builds on this progress by proposing \$65 billion more in savings in entitlement programs.

My Budget also includes proposals to address the longer-term challenge arising from unsustainable growth in Medicare, while ensuring modern health care for our seniors. In addition, I will continue to call on Congress to enact comprehensive reform of Social Security for future generations, so that we return the system to firm financial footing, protect the benefits of today's retirees and near-retirees, provide the opportunity for today's young workers to build a secure nest egg they can call their own, and assure our children and grandchildren a retirement benefit that is as good as is available today.

As this budget shows, we have set clear priorities that meet the most pressing needs of the American people while addressing the long-term challenges that lie ahead. The 2007 Budget

will ensure that future generations of Americans have the opportunity to live in a Nation that is more prosperous and more secure. With this Budget, we are protecting our highest ideals and building a brighter future for all.

GEORGE W. BUSH, *February 6, 2006.*

RESIGNATION AS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE
WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REP-
RESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, February 6, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: As a result of my election Thursday as Majority Leader, this letter is to inform you that I resign as Chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce and from further service on that Committee. During my five years of service as Chairman on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, the Committee has overseen and enacted 131 public laws designed to improve the lives of all Americans.

I also resign from the Committee on Agriculture on which I have served since being elected to Congress. I would ask that Conference Rule 2 be invoked with respect to my status on both Committees. I am humbled by my peers' decision to elect me as our Majority Leader and I look forward to working with you in that capacity.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Chairman.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF THE HONORABLE DENNIS MOORE, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Julie Merz, District Director of the Honorable DENNIS MOORE, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 1, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the District Court of Johnson County, Kansas, for testimony in a criminal case.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

JULIE MERZ,
District Director.

ADMINISTRATION CUTS OFF FEDERAL FUNDS TO OSU STUDY

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, we have another concern today arising about the administration's potential abuse of the scientific process in making policy.

Today, the Associated Press reported that the Bureau of Land Management under this administration has suspended funding for the final year of a study from Oregon State University on the impact of logging in national forests burned by wildfires.

Findings of these studies were published last month in the magazine Science, and they suggested that the administration's stance on salvage logging runs counter to the real goals regarding forest regeneration and fire prevention. I am concerned in this case that we have seen yet another situation where funding may have been frozen to punish scientific results legitimately conducted at Oregon State University, and that is why I have called on the Interior Department's inspector general today to investigate whether or not this in fact has occurred.

Did Daniel Donato and his research team from OSU lose funding because of this cause? Is this another punishment situation? We need to find out. We have got to respect science and use it accordingly.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 7, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of the Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby respectfully resign my seat on the House Energy and Commerce Committee effective February 7, 2006. I would like to express my deep gratitude to you and Chairman Barton for the opportunity to serve and look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Sincerely,

J. GRESHAM BARRETT,
Member of Congress.

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

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

A bill and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1219. An act to authorize certain tribes in the State of Montana to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of water rights to meet the water needs of the Dry Prairie Rural Water Association, Inc.; to the Committee on Resources.

S. Con. Res. 79. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that no United States assistance should be provided directly to the Palestinian Authority if any representative political party holding a ma-

jority of parliamentary seats within the Palestinian Authority maintains a position calling for the destruction of Israel; to the Committee on International Relations.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mrs. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4519. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend funding for the operation of State high risk health insurance pools.

H.R. 4659. An act to amend the USA PATRIOT Act to extend the sunset of certain provisions of such act.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reports that on February 3, 2006, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 4519. To amend the Public Health Service Act to extend funding for the operation of State high risk health insurance pools.

H.R. 4659. To amend the USA PATRIOT Act to extend the sunset of certain provisions of such act.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 8, 2006, at 2 p.m.

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:

[The following action occurred on February 3, 2006]

Mr. THOMAS: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 1631. A bill to provide for the financing of high-speed rail infrastructure, and for other purposes: with an amendment (Rept. 109-314 Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the Committee on Resources discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3699 committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

SUBSEQUENT ACTION ON REPORTED BILLS SEQUENTIALLY REFERRED

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk