

Be happy to yield to my friend.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. RYAN, the bottom line is that you really started to paint a picture here. What has happened over the last 4 to 5 years of this Republican Congress rubber stamping what the President has proposed has driven this country almost to the point of the 50 percent mark of foreign countries owning the United States of America financially. We owe them. Countries that don't even recognize, folks want to talk about an effort against terrorism.

Right now there is something major going on in the Middle East. You have the countries that are a part of this port deal that don't even recognize Israel. I mean, they are like, well, we don't even want to do business with them. Okay? As a matter of fact, Iran wants to blow Israel off the map. You have folks that are there saying all these statements every week about our friends and allies: if this is about the war on terror, we have to make sure that we do what we need to do and stick close to our friends.

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And what is wrong here, Mr. RYAN and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, is that the President is still making statements, Madam Speaker, such as, well, I have not changed my mind. They are going to have their 45-day review and all that kind of stuff.

It happens to be a U.S. statute, I must add.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. A small detail.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Saying that if anyone, anyone, raised any concerns, any concerns, one of the lowest bars of statutory language, that there should automatically be a 45-day review.

Do you remember that we went for 72 hours, Madam Speaker, and no one bothered to open the statute books to say we should have had an investigation because there is a questionable pass of this country and that it should be done. But the administration came out stonewalling and trying to strong-arm this House of Representatives and the Senate, saying, we are going to do what we have got to do and we are going to stick with it, and we think it is the right thing to do. And the statutes were on our side, on the people's side, saying, no, there should be a 45-day review.

So we are going to see what is going to happen.

But I hope, Madam Speaker, that the Republican majority here in the House and in the Senate no longer says, well, Mr. President, we still have our stamp. If you say we should do it, we will figure out a way to do it, and we will not object because we have got to be close to our friends.

Well, we are going to find out the leaders from the followers. The bottom line, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. RYAN, is, are you with them or are you with our allies, our true allies? That is the question.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Yesterday the amazing thing about this whole port deal that you are alluding to, in the Financial Services Committee we had an opportunity to question the representatives of the administration. Do you know that they testified that six different entities within the White House were aware of the proposal to close this Dubai Ports World deal, and the President still did not know about it, with six of his offices in the White House knowing about it? No explanation in committee for why that happened.

Really, this picture says it all. We are essentially outsourcing America's security to a foreign-government-owned company. We are not talking about just a foreign company.

I think I can tell you that I recognize that we are not going to shut down foreign companies from owning and operating facilities in our Nation's ports. We are a global economy now. But is it appropriate to allow foreign governments to have intimate knowledge about America's security in our ports and run the terminal operations inside those ports? Overwhelmingly, I think Republicans and Democrats in Congress are saying "no." Why is the President saying "yes"? This is a person who supposedly thinks that America's national security should be a priority. It has left Americans scratching their heads.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. I think, at the end of the day, this is symbolic of what is happening in all these other areas that we talked about tonight. It puts a face, so to speak, on what is happening, that Mr. MEEK talked about, all the foreign borrowing, the deficits and everything else. Now, it is like, well, it is our ports, my goodness gracious. Well, that is just the tip of the iceberg, unfortunately.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. It is indifference, Mr. RYAN. It is indifference, that there is a total disconnect between what the American people care about and understand are their needs and what this administration and this President understand.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. As we have been saying for a long time in the 30-something group, we have got to try to convince, Madam Speaker, the Republican majority to start putting the country before their own political party, and I think we would be okay.

The Web site, www.housedemocrats.gov/30something, Madam Speaker, for all the Members who want to access this. All the charts that you saw here tonight, Madam Speaker, are accessible on this Web site for Members to access.

To my friend from Florida, I thank you for the opportunity to be here with you.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. With that, Madam Speaker, we would like to thank Mr. Jim Moran, who was with us earlier, Mr. Artur Davis also and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and definitely Mr. RYAN for coming to the floor. We would

like to thank the Democratic leadership for allowing us to have the hour.

APPOINTMENT AS INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. Foxx). Pursuant to clause 6 of rule II, and the order of the House of December 18, 2005, the Chair announces the joint appointment by the Speaker, the majority leader and the minority leader of Mr. James J. Cornell of Springfield, Virginia, as Inspector General for the United States House of Representatives to fill the existing vacancy.

OMMISSION FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2006, AT PAGE H447

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 2141. An act to make improvements to the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; to the Committee on Financial Services; in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HINCHAY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of illness.

Mr. HINOJOSA (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of business in the district.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of illness.

Mr. SWEENEY (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for February 28 and the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

Mrs. BONO (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of illness.

Mr. GOHMERT (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of business in the district.

Mr. NORWOOD (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

The following Members (at the request of Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFazio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DINGELL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Member (at the request of Mr. PRICE of Georgia) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, March 7.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 449. An act to facilitate shareholder consideration of proposals to make Settlement Common Stock under the Alaska Native Calims Settlement Act available to missed enrollees, eligible elders, and eligible persons born after December 18, 1971, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, March 6, 2006, at noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

6397. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report on the United States Radiological Threat Reduction Program, pursuant to Public Law 109-58, section 631(b)(2); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6398. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Impact of Energy Policy Act of 2005 Section 206 Rebates on Consumers and Renewable Energy Consumption, With Projections to 2010," pursuant to Public Law 109-58, section 206(d); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6399. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report on the Failure to Comply with Deadlines for New or Revised Energy Conservation Standards, pursuant to Public Law 109-58, section 141; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6400. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a copy of a report required by Section 202(a)(1)(C) of Pub. L. 107-273, the "21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act," related to certain settlements and injunctive relief, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6401. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting

a copy of a report required by Section 202(a)(1)(C) of Pub. L. 107-273, the "21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act," related to certain settlements and injunctive relief, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6402. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a copy of a report required by Section 202(a)(1)(C) of Pub. L. 107-273, the "21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act," related to certain settlements and injunctive relief, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6403. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the report on the administration of the Foreign Agents Registration Act covering the six months ended June 30, 2004, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 621; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6404. A letter from the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, transmitting Determination not to petition for a writ of certiorari in the case Ramirez-Landeros v. Gonzalez, No. 03-71743 (9th Cir. 2005); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6405. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a letter concerning grants made during FY 2005 under Section 2806(b) of the Paul Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-561) to improve forensic science services; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6406. A letter from the Office of Public Information, Supreme Court of the United States, transmitting a copy of the 2005 Year-End Report on the Federal Judiciary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6407. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works, Department of the Army, transmitting a copy of the the Final Feasibility Report of the Stillaguamish River Ecosystem Restoration project in Snohomish County, Washington; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6408. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Chicago New Year's Celebration, Lake Michigan, Chicago, IL [CGD09-05-135] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 28, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6409. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Notification of Arrival in U.S. Ports; Certain Dangerous Cargoes; Electronic Submission [USCG-2004-19963] (RIN: 1625-AA93) received January 10, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6410. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AICW), Cape Fear River, Northeast Cape Fear River, NC [CGD05-05-102] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received February 23, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6411. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; North Portland Harbor Dredging Operations; Portland, Oregon [CGD 13-06-002] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6412. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Town Creek Channel, Grace Memorial and Silas Pearman Bridges, Charleston, South Carolina [COTP Charleston 05-143] (RIN: 1625-AA97) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6413. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Cooper River, Hog Island Channel, Grace Memorial and Silas Pearman Bridges, Charleston, South Carolina [COTP Charleston 06-003] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6414. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone Regulation; Tampa Bay, FL [COTP ST Petersburg 05-163] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6415. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Mission Creek Waterway, China Basin, San Francisco Bay, California [COTP San Francisco Bay 05-011] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6416. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Bayou Lafourche, LA [CGD08-05-049] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6417. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Housatonic River, CT [CGD01-05-102] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6418. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Niantic River, Niantic, CT [CGD01-06-011] received February 23, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6419. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Connecticut River, Old Lyme, CT [CGD01-06-005] received February 23, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6420. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Shark River (South Channel), Avon, NJ [CGD05-06-005] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received February 23, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6421. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zones;