

years, going back probably three decades now, we have taken the position in this country that we are going to let companies get as big as they can get because they say "we need to get big so we can function in the global economy." But the ramifications of letting them get so big with no regulation has been that if they make a mistake, then it doesn't just affect their stockholders and their employees, it affects the rest of the country. Now we have seen that. As you said early on in the opening remarks, the chickens have come home to roost. That is where we are.

This Congress, this government, has to start standing up for Main Street, not for Wall Street, understanding that Wall Street provides great benefits for this country at times. But we have to make sure that ultimately we protect the average American working family. That is what this Congress I think has been committed to doing since day one, and we will continue to be committed to that as we move forward.

I yield back, and thank you for your leadership, Mr. HODES.

Mr. HODES. Thank you, Mr. YARMUTH.

I appreciate the time we had, Madam Speaker, to talk about the economy. In the coming days, the Financial Services Committee will be presenting two very important proposals to help more on the mortgage crisis. One, we will provide some loan-ability and guarantee-ability through the Federal Housing Administration to lenders who are willing to write down loans and help people who are facing foreclosure and who may be in distress on their homes in order to make more money available to prevent foreclosures, and to help those, say at least 1 million, perhaps up to 2 million people who have been in foreclosures.

The second thing is we expect to propose a program of loans and grants to help States and cities acquire properties that have been foreclosed and facilitate returning them to the rolls as owner-occupied or rental units.

Taken together, these initiatives are going to be very important. They are going to allow millions of families to avoid disasters, they are going to help hard-pressed jurisdictions avoid the cascade of deteriorating neighborhoods and abandoned houses that follow the kind of crises we have seen, and they are going to help stem the steep and destabilizing decline in house prices that led to and is intensifying the financial crisis, because we cannot allow this crisis to continue unabated.

This Congress is ready to act. We are going to help middle-class and working families out of this hole.

I thank my colleagues for joining me tonight, and I thank Madam Speaker for her indulgence in allowing us to go over a short amount of time.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legis-

lative 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. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. YARMUTH, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WEINER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SESTAK, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. TANCREDO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, April 3.

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, April 9.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, April 9.

Mr. WESTMORELAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELLER of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HUNTER, for 5 minutes, today and April 3.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, for 5 minutes, April 8.

(The following Member (at his request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

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. 980. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to address online pharmacies; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 3, 2008, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

5807. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Community Facilities Grant Program (RIN: 0575-AC75) re-

ceived March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5808. A letter from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, transmitting the Corporation's annual report on the provision of services to minority and diverse audiences by public broadcasting entities and public telecommunications entities, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 396(m)(2); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5809. A letter from the Attorney, Office of Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Alternative Fuel Transportation Program; Private and Local Government Fleet Determination (RIN: 1904-AB69) received March 17, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5810. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report outlining the status of Exxon and Stripper Well Oil Overcharge Funds as of September 30, 2006, satisfying the request set forth in the Conference Report accompanying the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1988, Pub. L. 100-202; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5811. A letter from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting a copy of a report entitled "Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2006," pursuant to Public Law 102-486 section 1605(a); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5812. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's status of the report entitled, "Report on Uncosted Balances," pursuant to Public Law 102-486; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5813. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting a letter expressing the Department's opposition to efforts to legislatively impose temporary or long-term suspensions on the acquisition of petroleum for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5814. A letter from the Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office, transmitting the Office's report concerning GAO employees who were assigned to congressional committees during fiscal year 2007, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 719(b)(1)(C); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5815. A letter from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting a copy of the annual report for Calendar Year 2007, in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5816. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Park System Units in Alaska (RIN: 1024-AD38) received March 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5817. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator For Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; 2008 Scup Specifications; Correction [Docket No. 071030625-8130-02] (RIN: 0648-XC84) received March 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5818. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts,

transmitting the third annual report to Congress on victims' rights, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 8771; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5819. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the Office's fiscal year 2008 update to the Long Range Plan for Information Technology in the Federal Judiciary and the Judiciary Information Technology Fund Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2007, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 612(h); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5820. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on a petition on behalf of a class of workers from the Mound Plant near Dayton, Ohio to be added to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC), pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5821. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on a petition on behalf of a class of workers from the Combustion Engineering facility in Windsor, Connecticut to be added to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC), pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5822. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on a petition on behalf of a class of workers from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to be added to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC), pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5823. A letter from the Director, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Annual Report of the Citizenship and Immigration Services for Fiscal Year 2007; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5824. A letter from the Ombudsman, Department of Labor, transmitting the Third Annual Report of the Ombudsman of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5825. A letter from the Assistant Secretary Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Visas: Documentation of immigrants under the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended. [Public Notice:] received March 10, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5826. A letter from the Executive Vice President/COO, National Security Council, transmitting the Council's 2007 Financial Report, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 463 Public Law 83-259; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5827. A letter from the Acting Chief Acquisition Officer & Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-24; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket FAR-2007-0002, Sequence 11] received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5828. A letter from the Acting Chief Acquisition Officer & Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2007-004, Common Security Configurations [FAC 2005-24; FAR Case 2007-004; Item VI; Docket 2008-0001; Sequence 5] (RIN: 9000-AK88) received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5829. A letter from the Acting Chief Acquisition Officer & Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2005-027, FAR Part 30-CAS Administration [FAC 2005-24; FAR Case 2005-027; Item V; Docket 2006-0020; Sequence 9] (RIN: 9000-AK60) received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5830. A letter from the Acting Chief Acquisition Officer & Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2006-028, New Designated Countries-Dominican Republic, Bulgaria, and Romania [FAC 2005-24; FAR Case 2006-028; Item IV; Docket 2008-0001; Sequence 4] (RIN: 9000-AK77) received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5831. A letter from the Acting Chief Acquisition Officer & Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2007-016, Trade Agreements — New Thresholds [FAC 2005-24; FAR Case 2007-016; Item III; Docket 2008-0001; Sequence 3] (RIN: 9000-AK89) received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5832. A letter from the Acting Chief Acquisition Officer & Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2006-016, Numbered Notes for Synopses [FAC 2005-24; FAR Case 2006-016; Item II; Docket 2008-0001; Sequence 2] (RIN: 9000-AK70) received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5833. A letter from the Acting Chief Acquisition Officer & Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2005-011, Contractor Personnel in a Designated Operational Area or Supporting a Diplomatic or Consular Mission [FAC 2005-24; FAR Case 2005-011; Item I; Docket 2008-0001; Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AK42) received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5834. A letter from the Acting Chief Acquisition Officer & Senior Procurement Executive, GSA, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-24; Introduction [Docket FAR-2007-0002, Sequence 10] received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science and Technology.

5835. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Expansion of the Alexander Valley Viticultural Area (2005R-501P) [T.D. TTB-65; Re: Notice No. 61] (RIN: 1513-AB23) received March 14, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5836. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Section 61-Gross Income Defined 26 CFR 1.61-21: Taxation of fringe benefits. (Rev. Rul. 2008-14) received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5837. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Issuance of Opinion and Advisory Letters and Opening of the EGTRRA Determination

Letter Program for Pre-Approved Defined Contribution Plans [Announcement 2008-23] received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5838. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Abandonment of Stock or Other Securities [TD 9386] (RIN: 1545-BE80) received March 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5839. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — 26 CFR 601.204: Changes in accounting periods and in methods of accounting. (Also, Part 1, 446, 461, 481; 1.446-1, 1.461-1, 1.461-5, 1.481-1) (Rev. Proc. 2008-25) received March 13, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

5840. A letter from the Acting Regulations Officer of Social Security, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Immune System Disorders [Docket No. SSA 2006-0070] (RIN: 0960-AF33) received March 18, 2008, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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:

Ms. SUTTON: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1071. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4847) to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes (Rept. 110-563). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. AKIN (for himself and Mr. WOLF):

H.R. 5677. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to prohibit the importation into the United States of plastinated human remains; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 5678. A bill to provide economic stimulus through emergency community development block grant assistance for the redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed homes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 5679. A bill to amend the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 to require mortgagees for mortgages in default to engage in reasonable loss mitigation activities; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 5680. A bill to amend certain laws relating to Native Americans, and for others purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. McNERNEY:

H.R. 5681. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to improve America's research competitiveness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.