

and begin the long, long process of rebuilding.

America is willing to find new friends, and to forge new partnerships, where shared interests align. We want harmony and stability, not war and conflict. We want peace wherever peace can be found.

America is friends today with former enemies. Some of our closest allies, decades ago, fought on the opposite side of these terrible, terrible wars. This history should give us all faith in the possibilities for a better world.

Hopefully, the 250th year for America will see a world that is more peaceful, more just, and more free. On our 100th anniversary, in 1876, citizens from across our Nation came to Philadelphia to celebrate America's centennial. At that celebration, the country's builders and artists and inventors showed off their wonderful creations.

Alexander Graham Bell displayed his telephone for the first time. Remington unveiled the first typewriter. An early attempt was made at electric light. Thomas Edison showed an automatic telegraph and an electric pen.

Imagine the wonders our country could know in America's 250th year. Think of the marvels we can achieve if we simply set free the dreams of our people. Cures to the illnesses that have always plagued us are not too much to hope. American footprints on distant worlds are not too big a dream. Millions lifted from welfare to work is not too much to expect. And streets where mothers are safe from fear, schools where children learn in peace, and jobs where Americans prosper and grow, are not too much to ask.

When we have all of this, we will have made America greater than ever before for all Americans. This is our vision. This is our mission. But we can only get there together.

We are one people with one destiny. We all bleed the same blood. We all salute the same great American flag, and we all are made by the same God. When we fulfill this vision, when we celebrate our 250 years of glorious freedom, we will look back on tonight as when this new chapter of American greatness began.

The time for small thinking is over. The time for trivial fights is behind us. We just need the courage to share the dreams that fill our hearts, the bravery to express the hopes that stir our souls, and the confidence to turn those hopes and those dreams into action.

From now on, America will be empowered by our aspirations, not burdened by our fears; inspired by the future, not bound by failures of the past; and guided by our vision, not blinded by our doubts.

I am asking all citizens to embrace this renewal of the American spirit. I am asking all Members of Congress to join me in dreaming big, and bold, and daring things for our country. And I am asking everyone watching tonight to seize this moment and believe in yourselves. Believe in your future, and believe, once more, in America.

Thank you. God bless you, and God bless these United States.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

At 10 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m., the President of the United States, accompanied by the committee of escort, retired from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The Assistant to the Sergeant at Arms escorted the invited guests from the Chamber in the following order:

The members of the President's Cabinet; the Chief Justice of the United States and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court; the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

The SPEAKER. The Chair declares the joint session of the two Houses now dissolved.

Accordingly, at 10 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m., the joint session of the two Houses was dissolved.

The Members of the Senate retired to their Chamber.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON THE STATE OF THE UNION

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the message of the President be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered printed.

The motion was agreed to.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 609. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs health care center in Center Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the "Abie Abraham VA Clinic".

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 1, 2017, at 10 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

670. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert R. Ruark, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

671. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, Depart-

ment of Defense, transmitting a letter stating that the annual report on the current and future military strategy of Iran will be delivered to the Congress by the end of April, 2017; to the Committee on Armed Services.

672. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's direct final rule — Use of Ozone-Depleting Substances [Docket No.: FDA-2015-N-1355] (RIN: 0910-AH36) received February 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

673. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — VNT1 protein in potato; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2014-0457; FRL-9957-97] received February 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

674. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Revisions to Public Inspection File Requirements — Broadcaster Correspondence File and Cable Principal Headend Location [MB Docket No.: 16-161] received February 23, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

675. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Roma and San Isidro, Texas) [MB Docket No.: 05-142] (RM-11220) received February 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

676. A letter from the Deputy Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Fiscal Year 2016 FISMA report and the Agency Privacy Management Report, pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3553(c); Public Law 113-283, Sec. 2(a); (128 Stat. 3076); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

677. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, Office for International Affairs and Seafood Inspection, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fish and Fish Product Import Provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act [Docket No.: 0907301201-6406-03] (RIN: 0648-AY15) received February 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

678. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's final rule — Rules of Practice for Hearings [Docket No.: R-1543] (RIN: 7100 AE-55) received February 23, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

679. A letter from the Director of Civil Works, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Issuance and Reissuance of Nationwide Permits [COE-2015-0017] (RIN: 0710-AA73) received February 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

680. A letter from the Office of Program Manager, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the Secretary (00REG), Office of Regulation Policy and

Management (00REG), Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — VA Veteran-Owned Small Business Verification Guidelines (RIN: 2900-AP93) received February 22, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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:

Mr. SESSIONS. Committee on Rules. House Resolution 156. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1004) to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require the publication of information relating to pending agency regulatory actions, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1009) to amend title 44, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to review regulations, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-21). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. TIBERI. Joint Economic Committee. Report of the Joint Economic Committee on the 2017 Economic Report of the President (Rept. 115-22). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. YOUNG of Iowa (for himself, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. DONOVAN):

H.R. 1238. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Agriculture, 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 Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. LANCE, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. COLE, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 1239. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Defense to make grants to support the study of world languages in elementary schools and secondary schools; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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 Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, and Mr. HUNTER):

H.R. 1240. A bill to require a certain percentage of liquefied natural gas and crude oil exports be transported on vessels documented under the laws of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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 Mr. LAMALFA (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. JONES, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. PANETTA, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 1241. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require a school food authority to make publicly available any waiver of the Buy American requirement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BEYER, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MOORE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. LEE, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SOTO, Mr. DELANEY, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 1242. A bill to establish the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. MARINO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. POLIS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. HIMES, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. POCAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. NOLAN):

H.R. 1243. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to use only human-based methods for training members of the Armed Forces in the treatment of severe combat injuries; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. POSEY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 1244. A bill to clarify the National Credit Union Administration authority to improve credit union safety and soundness; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CUMMINGS (for himself, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. MOORE, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. LEE, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. POCAN, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 1245. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for the importation of affordable and safe drugs by wholesale distributors, pharmacies, and individuals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CURBELO of Florida (for himself and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 1246. A bill to exempt health insurance of residents of United States territories from the annual fee on health insurance providers; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on

Energy and Commerce, 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 Mr. DONOVAN (for himself and Mr. CLAY):

H.R. 1247. A bill to extend the period of availability of the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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 Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 1248. A bill to amend the National Security Act of 1947 to prohibit individuals who threaten to destroy the Government from participating in or attending meetings of the National Security Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Intelligence (Permanent Select), and Oversight and Government Reform, 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 Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 1249. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require a multiyear acquisition strategy of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. FLEISCHMANN:

H.R. 1250. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to use the testimonials of former violent extremists or their associates in order to counter terrorist recruitment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. HANABUSA):

H.R. 1251. A bill to provide for cost-of-living increases for certain Federal benefits programs based on increases in the Consumer Price Index for the elderly; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform, and Armed Services, 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 Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 1252. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for certain acquisition authorities for the Under Secretary of Management of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself, Ms. HERERA BEUTLER, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 1253. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make loans