

months that I was able to travel throughout the district.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude once again by talking about the freshman class. When I first got elected to Congress, I had heard a little bit about this class status, I heard a little bit about the freshman class, the sophomore class and so on.

It works almost like high school. Those that got elected in a certain year, they would come here and have to go through the orientation process, learn about the institution at the same pace and learn about it together. But they are also elected under the pretense of a certain set of issues.

Every election year seems to define for itself a certain mood that is prevalent throughout the country. What we discovered is that 34 Members came here from throughout the country, unified in our belief that the American people are taxed in excess, that our government at the Federal level is far too big, and, as such, threatens real freedom and real liberty throughout the country, and that the best way to ensure real freedom and real liberty and real participation, economically and politically, is not through bigger Federal involvement and a bigger Federal Government, but by a smaller one, one which defers to the wisdom of states, all 50 of them, including territories, and local governments, and, even more so, defers to the people themselves.

We are unified in our vision that the size of the Federal Government needs to be contained, it needs to be reduced, and that we do need to empower people back home in ways that historically and traditionally we know leads to more prosperity in the country.

Those are the issues that define our class, the 34 Members that got elected in 1996. Those are the issues that define the projects that we are moving forward on, that define the issues that we fight for passionately here on the House floor, and it defines the issues that we speak about frequently and that we discuss often.

Our agenda is one that we are very committed to. It is an agenda that we believe is playing a primary role in driving the overall message we are sending as a majority Republican party here in Washington, and it is one that we look forward to engaging in vigorously with those on the left side, the Democratic side of the floor, who would disagree.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. McKEON (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for 4 p.m. today and February 5, on account of official business.

Mr. HERGER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today and on February 5, on account of family matters.

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 Mr. STUPAK) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

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

Mr. BISHOP, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BERRY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SANCHEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WATT of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FORD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCHALE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DIXON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RUSH, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BOUCHER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CLEMENT, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

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

Mr. HUTCHINSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HILL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHAYS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELDON of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Mr. TALENT, and to include extraneous material, notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds 2 pages of the RECORD, and is estimated by the Public Printer to cost \$1,161.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. STUPAK) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. RAHALL.

Mr. BERMAN.

Mr. SCOTT.

Mr. MANTON.

Ms. HARMAN.

Mr. ETHERIDGE.

Mr. HAMILTON.

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri.

Mr. WISE.

Ms. WOOLSEY.

Mr. DELLUMS.

Mr. DIXON.

Mr. BONIOR.

Mr. SERRANO.

Mr. ENGEL.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. GORDON.

Mr. TOWNS.

Mr. KIND.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOSSELLA) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. GOODLING.

Mr. BEREUTER.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon.

Mr. WALSH.

Mrs. MORELLA.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

Mr. GEKAS.

Mr. GALLEGLY.

Mr. NORWOOD.

Mr. GILMAN.

Mr. SHAW.

Mr. HOUGHTON.

Mr. CALVERT.

Mr. ROHRABACHER.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. COYNE.

Mr. PACKARD.

Mr. SANDLIN.

Mr. LATOURETTE.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1271. An act to authorize the Federal Aviation Administration's research, engineering, and development programs for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3042. An act to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 to establish the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to conduct environmental conflict resolution and training, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

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

S. 1564. An act to provide redress for inadequate restitution of assets seized by the United States Government during World War II which belonged to victims of the Holocaust, and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Oversight, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, bills of the House of the following titles:

On February 4, 1998:

H.R. 1271. An act to authorize the Federal Aviation Administration's research, engineering, and development programs for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3042. An act to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy of 1992 to establish the United States Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to conduct environmental conflict resolution and training, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 9 minutes

p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, February 5, 1998, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

6970. A letter from the Chair, Defense Environmental Response Task Force, Department of Defense, transmitting the Defense Environmental Response Task Force Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1997; to the Committee on National Security.

6971. A letter from the Under Secretary (Acquisition and Technology), Department of Defense, transmitting the report of determination to combine multiple depot-level maintenance and repair workloads, pursuant to Public Law 105—85, section 359(a); to the Committee on National Security.

6972. A letter from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting the report entitled "Acquisition Workforce Reductions," pursuant to Public Law 105—85, section 912(b); to the Committee on National Security.

6973. A letter from the Director, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the 1997 annual report on the activities of the Affordable Housing Advisory Board, pursuant to Public Law 103—204, section 14; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

6974. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Individual Reference Services Report; to the Committee on Commerce.

6975. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for improved safety of imported foods; to the Committee on Commerce.

6976. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the bi-monthly report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question, including any relevant reports from the Secretary General of the United Nations, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2373(c); to the Committee on International Relations.

6977. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting his annual report reviewing all activities of United States Government departments and agencies during calendar year 1996 relating to the prevention of nuclear proliferation, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3281; to the Committee on International Relations.

6978. A letter from the General Counsel, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, transmitting copies of the texts of Amendment X to the Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Implementation of the Verification Provisions of the INF Treaty; to the Committee on International Relations.

6979. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report regarding certain forms of United States assistance to countries that have contributed to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization; to the Committee on International Relations.

6980. A letter from the President's Pay Agent, transmitting a report justifying the reasons for the extension of locality-based comparability payments to categories of positions that are in more than one executive agency, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 5304(h)(2)(C); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6981. A letter from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administra-

tion, transmitting the calendar year 1997 report on "Extraordinary Contractual Actions to Facilitate the National Defense," pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1434; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6982. A letter from the Secretary of Education, transmitting a report concerning surplus Federal real property disposed of to educational institutions in fiscal year 1997, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 484(o)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6983. A letter from the Chairman, District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting the Management Reform Plans covering eight District of Columbia government departments and four City-wide functions, pursuant to Public Law 105—33, section 11103; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6984. A letter from the President, National Endowment for Democracy, transmitting the 1997 annual report in compliance with the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988, pursuant to Public Law 100—504, section 104(a) (102 Stat. 2525); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6985. A letter from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting the FY 1997 report pursuant to the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6986. A letter from the Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting the report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act for 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6987. A letter from the Postmaster General, U.S. Postal Service, transmitting the Annual Report of the Postmaster General for Fiscal Year 1997, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 2402; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6988. A letter from the Chairman, United States Postal Service, transmitting the report in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act for 1997, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(j); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6989. A letter from the General Manager, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, transmitting the FY 1997 report pursuant to the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

6990. A letter from the Chair, Board of Directors, Office of Compliance, transmitting notification that the Board of Directors has approved Gary Green to serve as General Counsel of the Office of Compliance for the statutory five year term; to the Committee on House Oversight.

6991. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the report on antitrust mutual assistance agreements required by Section 11 of the International Antitrust Enforcement Assistance Act of 1994; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6992. A letter from the Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, transmitting the Administration's status report entitled, "Progress Made in Implementing Sections 6016 and 1038 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA)," pursuant to Public Law 102—240, section 6016(e) (105 Stat. 2183); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6993. A letter from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting the report on the commercial feasibility of high-speed ground transportation, pursuant to section 1036 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

6994. A letter from the Chairman, Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation, transmitting the annual report of the activities of the Goldwater Foundation, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4711; to the Committee on Science.

6995. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the second report on the Operation of the Andean Trade Preference Act, pursuant to Public Law 102—182, section 203(f) (105 Stat. 1239); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6996. A letter from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting the thirteenth report on trade and employment effects of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2705; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6997. A letter from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting the Department's fourth report on the impact of the Andean Trade Preference Act on U.S. trade and employment from 1995 to 1996, pursuant to Public Law 102—182, section 207 (105 Stat. 1244); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6998. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting notification of the conditions of the proposed sale of the United States' interest in Naval Petroleum Reserve Numbered 1, Elk Hills, in California, pursuant to Public Law 104—106, section 3414(a); jointly to the Committees on National Security and Commerce.

6999. A letter from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting the Savannah River Site Nuclear Material Stabilization Activities report for fiscal year 1998, as requested in the Conference Report 105—27; jointly to the Committees on Commerce and Appropriations.

7000. A letter from the Acting Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency, transmitting a report authorizing the transfer of up to \$100M in defense articles and services to the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina, pursuant to Public Law 104—107, section 540(c) (110 Stat. 736); jointly to the Committees on International Relations and Appropriations.

7001. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting the FY 1999 Budget Request, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437d(d)(1); jointly to the Committees on House Oversight and Appropriations.

7002. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Secretary's certification to the Congress regarding the incidental capture of sea turtles in commercial shrimp operations, pursuant to Public Law 101—162, section 609(b)(2) (103 Stat. 1038); jointly to the Committees on Resources and Appropriations.

7003. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting the sixth annual report entitled "Monitoring the Impact of Medicare Physician Payment Reform on Utilization and Access," pursuant to Public Law 101—239; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce.

7004. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Force Management Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting notification of determinations that institutions of higher education have been deemed ineligible for certain Federal funding, pursuant to section 514 of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997; jointly to the Committees on National Security, Education and the Workforce, and Appropriations.

7005. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting a report identifying accounts containing unvouchered expenditures that are potentially subject to audit by the Comptroller General, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3524(b); jointly to the Committees on the Budget, Appropriations, and Government Reform and Oversight.