

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1 of rule XX and at the direction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I move to insist on the House amendments to S. 440 and to request a conference with the Senate thereon.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for consideration of the Senate bill and the House amendments, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. SHUSTER, CLINGER, PETRI, EMERSON, LAHOOD, MINETA, OBERSTAR, and RAHALL.

There was no objection.

REQUEST TO SPEAK OUT OF ORDER

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I am inquiring is this a 1-minute? What is the period of time being granted to the gentleman?

Mr. GIBBONS. Three minutes, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has asked for 3 minutes. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE FOR 1 MINUTE

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order for 1 minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

REQUEST TO SPEAK ON POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak on a point of personal privilege.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot entertain a unanimous-consent request to speak on a point of personal privilege.

FREE AND FULL DEBATE MUST BE ALLOWED IN THE HOUSE

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I do not want to turn this body into an authori-

tarian dictatorship, but recently, in the Ways and Means Committee I attended a meeting regularly called and I attempted to speak on a motion that was being made. I was immediately cut off by a parliamentary maneuver, and not given a chance to speak.

□ 1800

I have been here 33 years, Mr. Speaker. I do not believe I have ever seen that happen, I know in the Committee on Ways and Means, and I have never seen it happen on this floor. I know that my Republican friends are trying to hide their Medicare program from the American public, and we are doing the best we can to let the American public know what is going on. But the kind of parliamentary procedure I see around here now shocks me. This body is going to be seriously injured if we act in an authoritarian way and allow no debate.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1817, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 223 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 223

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1817) making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado [Mr. MCINNIS] is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HALL], pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During the consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

House Resolution 223 is a straightforward resolution. The proposed rule merely waives all points of order against the conference report and against its consideration. This resolution was reported out of the Committee on Rules by voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, the conference report on H.R. 1817, the legislation making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 1996 is critical legislation. This conference report appropriates \$11.2 billion in fiscal year 1996, the same as the House-passed bill, and \$2.5 billion more than in fiscal year 1995. Additionally, 40 percent of the funds in the bill are appropriated for family housing. Furthermore, \$3.9 billion, 35 percent of the total bill, is appropriated for base realignment and closure. I urge my colleagues to sup-

port the rule as well as the underlying legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HALL of Ohio asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend my colleague from Colorado, Mr. MCINNIS, as well as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for bringing this rule to the floor.

House Resolution 223 makes it in order to consider the conference report on H.R. 1817, the military construction appropriation bill for fiscal 1996 and waives all points of order against the conference report. The Rules Committee reported the rule without opposition by voice vote.

The conference report on H.R. 1817 appropriates \$4.3 billion for family housing, \$3.9 billion for base realignment and closure projects, and \$2.8 billion for other military construction. The funds will allow the Department of Defense to maintain adequate housing for members of the Armed Forces. It will also provide construction funds for upgrading existing structures and building new facilities.

I am pleased that the conference report includes \$10 million for construction projects at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. This includes \$4.1 million to upgrade a 40-year-old electrical distribution system that supports laboratories on the base. The funds also include \$5.9 million for a much-needed renovation of 66 units of housing at Page Manor, a neighborhood of homes for junior officers and enlisted personnel at Wright-Patterson.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the rule.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mrs. VUCANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 223, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 1817) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the conference report is considered as having been read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of September 14, 1995, at page H8954.)

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry. VerDate 20-SEP-95 07:02 Sep 21, 1995