

States. And he says, Mr. Speaker, we've come here to cash a check, a check that should give us upon demand the riches of security and of freedom and justice. But America, Dr. King says, has issued us a bounced check. It keeps coming back marked "insufficient funds." But I refuse to believe that there are no funds in the great vault of opportunity of this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am 46 years old, and I've had the privilege of serving in this Congress for nearly 16 years. I remember on September 10, 2001 when we stood here on the floor of this Congress, my dear colleagues, and this Congress declared that it was broke, that it couldn't find money for anything. We took a vote on September 10, 2001, to defund education programs for the most vulnerable children in our Nation.

□ 1520

Every Member of Congress, mostly from conservatives, and many conservative Democrats, came and made the argument that we could no longer afford to provide high-quality education for your children, that we could no longer afford to provide health care for all of the American people, that we could no longer afford it. And just 24 hours later, the tragedy, the great tragedy of the 20th century, terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and flew a plane into the ground in Pennsylvania and landed a plane on our Nation's defense system at the Pentagon. Just 24 hours later, the Congress of the United States that did not have the money to provide for education for our children, the Congress of the United States that did not have the money to provide health care for all of the American people, suddenly it found an unlimited amount of money to chase down Saddam Hussein. And we are spending an unlimited amount of money, just 24 hours later, to find Osama bin Laden in a cave in Afghanistan. Ten years later, we haven't found him yet. Yet we continue to spend billions and billions and billions of dollars.

So on one day the government is broke. Twenty-four hours later, Dr. King says the Nation has issued us a promissory note, and it keeps coming back marked "insufficient funds" for priorities that matter to the American people.

Our government, Mr. Speaker, needs the flexibility to respond in times of economic downturn or in war in a way that businesses, that families, and that States never have to consider.

I have been in the House long enough to know now that when my colleagues on the other side of the aisle came into the majority with large deficits and debt, I knew their first response would be to cut social spending, to weaken government regulation and underfund protection of workers' rights and civil rights and environmental protections. You name it.

I wish I could say I didn't see this coming, but conservative politicians

want to get government off the backs of finance, off the backs of finance and industry. They are willing and ready to use the current economic situation to do it, and they intend to place the burden on the backs of the middle class, of seniors, of children, of veterans and the poor.

The Republican budget that we voted on today does just that. The balanced budget amendment aims to make it a permanent fixture.

Mr. Speaker, I know we can do better. We cannot balance the budget on the backs of middle class Americans. We need to achieve the America of everyone's dreams. The burden of that dream must rest squarely on the shoulders of every American that can carry it.

I find it offensive that some of the most profitable corporations in this country pay no taxes and some even get a refund. I find it offensive that the richest 400 people in this country who have more wealth than half of all Americans combined have an effective tax rate of only 16.6 percent.

In the words of William Jennings Bryan: "When I find a man who is not willing to bear his share of the burdens of the government which protects him, I find a man who is unworthy to enjoy the blessings of a government like ours."

With those wise words, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2 of the Civil Rights Commission Amendments Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 1975 note), the order of the House of January 5, 2011, and upon the recommendation of the minority leader, the Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment of the following member on the part of the House to the Commission on Civil Rights for a term expiring December 15, 2016:

Mr. Michael Yaki, San Francisco, California.

The Chair announces that the term of appointment of Mr. Todd Gaziano to the Commission on Civil Rights expires on December 15, 2013.

#### 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. 216. An act to increase criminal penalties for certain knowing and intentional violations relating to food that is misbranded or adulterated; 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.

#### 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. 1308. An act to amend the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission Act to extend the termination date for the Commission, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RUNYON. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 43, 112th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until Monday, May 2, 2011, at 2 p.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

1285. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — U.S. Honey Producer Research, Promotion, and Consumer Information Order; Termination of Referendum Procedures [Document Number: AMS-FV-07-0091; FV-07-706-FR] (RIN: 0581-AC78) received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1286. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Organic Program; Amendment to the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances (Livestock) [Document Number: AMS-NOP-10-0051; NOP-10-04FR] (RIN: 0581-AD04) received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1287. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Walnuts Grown in California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-10-0060; FV10-984-1FIR] received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1288. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Revision of the Salable Quantity and Allotment Percentage for Class 3 (Native) Spearmint Oil for the 2010-2011 Marketing Year [Docket Nos.: AMS-FV-09-0082; FV10-985-1A IR] received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1289. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Country of Origin Labeling of Packed Honey [Document No.: AMS-FV-08-0075] (RIN: 0581-AC89) received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1290. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Blueberry Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Section 610 Review [Document Number: AMS-FV-10-0006] received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1291. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Avocados Grown

in South Florida; Increased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-10-0067; FV10-915-1FR] received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1292. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, et al.; Final Free and Restricted Percentages for the 2010-2011 Crop Year for Tart Cherries [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-10-930-4FR] received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1293. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the National Emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1294. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting Pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, Transmittal No. 4-11 informing of an intent to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the Kingdom of Sweden; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1295. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Pursuant to section 527(f) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for FY 1994 and 1995 (Pub. L. 103-236), a report listing outstanding expropriation cases; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1296. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 11-028, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1297. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 11-013, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1298. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 10-141, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1299. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's fiscal year 2010 annual report prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1300. A letter from the Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission United States and Mexico, transmitting the Commission's annual report for FY 2010 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1301. A letter from the Chairman, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting a copy of the annual report for Calendar Year 2010, 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.

1302. A letter from the Secretary, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's

annual report for FY 2010 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1303. A letter from the Acting Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Closure [Docket No.: 001005281-0369-02] (RIN: 0648-XA245) received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1304. 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 Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands; Final 2011 and 2012 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish [Docket No.: 101126521-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XZ90) received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1305. 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 Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2011 and 2012 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish [Docket No.: 101126522-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XZ89) received March 23, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

**TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL PURSUANT TO RULE XII**

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the following action was taken by the Speaker:

H.R. 358. Referral to the Committee on Ways and Means extended for a period ending not later than May 20, 2011.

**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. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 1570. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit to employers for the value of the service not performed during the period employees are performing service as members of the Ready Reserve or the National Guard; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. ADAMS (for herself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. POSEY, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. ELLMERS, Ms. BUERKLE, Mr. WEST, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. MICA, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MCHENRY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. RIVERA, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mr. BACHUS):

H.R. 1571. A bill to ban the sale of certain synthetic drugs; referred to the Committee

on Energy and Commerce, and 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.

By Mr. LANDRY:

H.R. 1572. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to improve safety at manned offshore installations, and for other purposes; referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. LUCAS (for himself, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. CONAWAY, and Mr. GARRETT):

H.R. 1573. A bill to facilitate implementation of title VII of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, promote regulatory coordination, and avoid market disruption; referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on 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. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. WOLF, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. CAPUANO):

H.R. 1574. A bill to amend titles 23 and 49, United States Code, concerning length and weight limitations for vehicles operating on Federal-aid highways, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. WOLF, Mr. PITTS, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 1575. A bill to make certain individuals ineligible for visas or admission to the United States and to revoke visas and other entry documents previously issued to such individuals, and to impose certain financial measures on such individuals, until the Russian Federation has thoroughly investigated the death of Sergei Leonidovich Magnitsky and brought the Russian criminal justice system into compliance with international legal standards, and for other purposes; referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Financial 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. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. PAUL, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, and Mr. TIBERI):

H.R. 1576. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow penalty-free withdrawals from individual retirement plans for adoption expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RIGELL:

H.R. 1577. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize advance appropriations for military personnel, reserve personnel, and National Guard personnel accounts of the Department of Defense, generally title I of the annual Department of Defense appropriations Act; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLAUGHTER (for herself, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HOLDEN, and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 1578. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health