The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. RHODES of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I today introducing a bill to encourage the hiring of older persons in private industry. It is an identical measure to H.R. 8695, introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Pucinski).

One of the most difficult problems facing millions of middle-aged and elderly persons is the difficulty of finding jobs. Many companies refuse to hire persons over age 45, not because they are not experienced or capable of doing the job well, but because of higher costs of proving them to work and earn a decent living, and other fringe benefits for which they would be eligible.

The bill would give employers full tax credit for the additional cost of hiring people of advanced age. It would permit the employer to compute what it costs him in fringe benefits for younger and older age group employees, and to receive a tax credit for the difference. Thus, the plan would be completed without the additional cost of hiring older workers.

From personal experience I know the extent of age discrimination based on age and the hardships which it brings to these persons and their families. Many residents of my district faced with this discrimination have written to me to urge that the Government recognize this problem and find a way to solve it.

We cannot afford to waste the skills and productive capacity of our people merely because they are over a certain age. These persons are entitled to the chance to work and earn a decent living for themselves and their families. I am hopeful that this legislation will offer a workable solution to this problem.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. GEORGE P. MILLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert a report at this point in the Record.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. GEORGE P. MILLER. Mr. Speaker, the report is as follows:

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE:
The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The joint committee on Atomic Energy during the Eighty-sixth Congress, first session.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. PATMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks at the end of this period of time and to include an address by Ernest O. Thompson, chairman, Texas Railroad Commission, on Oil Centennial Celebrations.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

HIRING OF OLDER PERSONS IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY

Mr. RHODES of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

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