all the work she has done, along with our staff on our side of the aisle. All of the staff have been outstanding this year. This is the culmination, one of the fine pieces of legislation that we have gotten out of the committee.

H.R. 1989 was the original bill that was introduced by the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] and myself, and H.R. 3968 represents a scaled-back version of that bill. But it is a fine piece of legislation that has been requested by the Judicial Conference, and I know that it will improve the general laws of the United States relating to the courts.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. LOFGREN].

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to say something briefly about the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] and the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD].

As a new Member of this Congress and of the Committee on the Judiciary, I do not know that they have received sufficient praise for the really excellent bipartisan work that they have done in this Congress on issues that really matter in patent law and other areas that just are so sensible.

Clearly, there are things they do not agree on, and they are very open about that, but they work together in a bipartisan way. They have made the country a better place as a consequence, and I, for one, commend them and thank them, and I am going to miss them both in the next Congress, if the voters send me back.

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman.

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

Mr. FLANAGAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to associate myself with the remarks of the gentlewoman from California [Ms. LOFGREN].

As has been the case, I have remarked on three separate occasions so far in this Congress, this is yet another worthy chairman and a ranking member that are retiring together, and what a fine job they have done through decades of service to the Congress. I thank them both for not only their fine work on this bill but the good work they have done through the years.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3968, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CLARIFYING RULES GOVERNING REMOVAL OF CASES TO FEDERAL COURT

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 533) to clarify the rules governing removal of cases to Federal court, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 533

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REMOVAL.

The first sentence of section 1447(c) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking ''any defect in removal procedure'' and inserting ''any defect other than lack of subject matter jurisdiction''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD] and the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD].

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 533.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, I rise in support of S. 533. In the Judicial Improvements and Access to Justice Act of 1988, Congress required under section 1447(c) of title 28 of the United States Code that a ''motion to remand the case on the basis of any defect in removal must be made within 30 days after the filing of the notice of removal under section 1446(a).''

The intent of the Congress is not entirely clear from the current wording of section 1447(c), and courts have interpreted it differently. S. 533 merely clarifies the intent of the Congress that a motion to remand a case on the basis of any defect other than subject matter jurisdiction must be made within 30 days after the filing of the notice of removal under section 1446(a).

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

Ms. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 533, to clarify the rule governing removal of cases.

As the gentleman from California has noted, this is a technical clarification made necessary by some language in section 1447(c) of title 28 that is not as clear as it should be.

Section 1447(c) requires motions to remand based on ''any defect in removal procedure'' to be filed within 30 days of the filing of the notice of removal. This language is unclear because no time limit applies to motions to remand based on lack of subject matter jurisdiction. S. 533 clarifies that ''defect'' encompasses any defect other than subject matter jurisdiction.

This correction is necessary to remove the ambiguity in the law. I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 533.

The question was taken.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

REPEALING A REDUNDANT VENUE PROVISION

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 677) to repeal a redundant venue provision, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 677

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REPEAL.

(a) REPEAL.—Subsection (a) of section 1392 of title 28, United States Code, is repealed.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of section 1392 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking ''(b) Any'' and inserting ''Any''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD] and the gentlewoman from Colorado [Mrs. SCHROEDER] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. MOORHEAD].

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 677.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of S. 677. S. 677 implements a proposal made by the Judicial Conference of the