

THOMAS] that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Consistent with the Chair's announced policy of January 4, 1995, as shown on pages H112 and H18 to H19 of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the Chair will keep to a maximum of 17 minutes the time for a recorded vote on this matter. Members should depart for the Chamber immediately upon the start of the vote by the electronic device.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 390, nays 0, not voting 44, as follows:

[Roll No. 16]

YEAS—390

Abercrombie	Costello	Greenwood
Ackerman	Cox	Gunderson
Allard	Coyne	Gutierrez
Andrews	Cramer	Gutknecht
Archer	Crane	Hall (TX)
Army	Crapo	Hamilton
Bachus	Cremeans	Hancock
Baesler	Cubin	Hansen
Baker (CA)	Cunningham	Harman
Baker (LA)	Danner	Hastert
Baldacci	Davis	Hastings (FL)
Ballenger	de la Garza	Hastings (WA)
Barr	Deal	Hayes
Barrett (NE)	DeFazio	Hayworth
Barrett (WI)	DeLauro	Hefner
Bartlett	DeLay	Heineman
Barton	Dellums	Herger
Bass	Diaz-Balart	Hilleary
Bateman	Dickey	Hilliard
Beilenson	Dicks	Hobson
Bentsen	Dingell	Hoekstra
Bereuter	Doggett	Hoke
Bevill	Dooley	Holden
Bilbray	Doyle	Horn
Bilirakis	Dreier	Hostettler
Bishop	Duncan	Houghton
Bliley	Dunn	Hoyer
Blute	Durbin	Hunter
Boehlert	Edwards	Hutchinson
Boehner	Ehlers	Hyde
Bonilla	Ehrlich	Inglis
Bonior	Emerson	Istook
Bono	Engel	Jackson-Lee
Borski	English	Jacobs
Boucher	Ensign	Johnson (CT)
Brewster	Eshoo	Johnson, E.B.
Browder	Everett	Johnson, Sam
Brown (CA)	Ewing	Jones
Brown (FL)	Fattah	Kanjorski
Brown (OH)	Fawell	Kaptur
Brownback	Fields (LA)	Kasich
Bryant (TN)	Fields (TX)	Kelly
Bunn	Filner	Kennedy (MA)
Bunning	Flake	Kennelly
Burr	Flanagan	Kildee
Burton	Foglietta	Kim
Buyer	Foley	King
Callahan	Forbes	Kingston
Calvert	Ford	Klecicka
Camp	Fowler	Klink
Canady	Fox	Klug
Cardin	Frank (MA)	Knollenberg
Castle	Franks (CT)	Kolbe
Chabot	Franks (NJ)	LaFalce
Chambliss	Frelinghuysen	LaHood
Chapman	Frisa	Largent
Chenoweth	Frost	LaTourrette
Christensen	Funderburk	Laughlin
Chrysler	Furse	Lazio
Clay	Ganske	Leach
Clayton	Gejdenson	Levin
Clement	Gekas	Lewis (CA)
Clinger	Geren	Lewis (GA)
Clyburn	Gibbons	Lewis (KY)
Coble	Gilchrest	Lightfoot
Coburn	Gillmor	Linder
Coleman	Gilman	Lipinski
Collins (GA)	Gonzalez	Livingston
Collins (IL)	Goodlatte	LoBiondo
Collins (MI)	Goodling	Lofgren
Combust	Gordon	Longley
Condit	Goss	Lowe
Conyers	Graham	Lucas
Cooley	Green	Luther

Maloney	Peterson (MN)	Spence
Manton	Petri	Spratt
Manzullo	Pickett	Stark
Markey	Pombo	Stearns
Martinez	Pomeroy	Stenholm
Martini	Porter	Stockman
Mascara	Portman	Stokes
Matsui	Poshard	Studds
McCarthy	Pryce	Stump
McDade	Quinn	Stupak
McHale	Radanovich	Talent
McHugh	Rahall	Tanner
McIntosh	Ramstad	Tate
McKinney	Rangel	Tauzin
Meehan	Reed	Taylor (MS)
Meek	Regula	Taylor (NC)
Menendez	Riggs	Tejeda
Metcalf	Rivers	Thomas
Meyers	Roberts	Thornberry
Mica	Roemer	Thornton
Miller (CA)	Rogers	Thurman
Miller (FL)	Rohrabacher	Tiahrt
Mineta	Ros-Lehtinen	Torkildsen
Minge	Roth	Torricelli
Mink	Roukema	Towns
Moakley	Roybal-Allard	Trafficant
Molnari	Royce	Tucker
Cox	Rush	Upton
Montgomery	Sabo	Velazquez
Moorhead	Salmon	Vento
Moran	Sanders	Visclosky
Morella	Sanford	Volkmer
Murtha	Sawyer	Vucanovich
Myers	Saxton	Waldholtz
Myrick	Scarborough	Walker
Nadler	Schaefer	Walsh
Neal	Schiff	Wamp
Nethercutt	Schroeder	Ward
Neumann	Schumer	Watt (NC)
Ney	Scott	Watts (OK)
Norwood	Seastrand	Waxman
Nussle	Sensenbrenner	Weldon (FL)
Oberstar	Serrano	Weldon (PA)
Obey	Shadegg	Weller
Olver	Shaw	White
Ortiz	Shays	Whitfield
Orton	Sisisky	Wicker
Oxley	Skaggs	Williams
Packard	Skeen	Wise
Pallone	Skelton	Wolf
Parker	Smith (MI)	Wyden
Pastor	Smith (NJ)	Wynn
Paxon	Smith (TX)	Young (AK)
Payne (NJ)	Smith (WA)	Young (FL)
Payne (VA)	Solomon	Zeliff
Peterson (FL)	Souder	Zimmer

NAYS—0

NOT VOTING—44

Barcia	Hinche	Owens
Becerra	Jefferson	Pelosi
Berman	Johnson (SD)	Quillen
Bryant (TX)	Johnston	Reynolds
Deutsch	Kennedy (RI)	Richardson
Dixon	Lantos	Rose
Doolittle	Latham	Shuster
Dornan	Lincoln	Slaughter
Evans	McCollum	Thompson
Farr	McCrery	Torres
Fazio	McDermott	Waters
Galleghy	McInnis	Wilson
Gephardt	McKeon	Woolsey
Hall (OH)	McNulty	Yates
Hefley	Mfume	

□ 1717

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. Speaker, due to medical reasons, I was unavoidably absent during rollcall vote No. 16 on agreeing to S. 2, the Congressional Accountability Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, due to a scheduling conflict in association with the celebration of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I was forced to miss the vote that was taken today, Tuesday, January 17, 1995.

Had I been here, I would have voted "aye" to suspend the rules and pass the bill S. 2, the Congressional Accountability Act 1995.

As my record will show, I have been a strong supporter in both 1994 and 1995 of legislation to require that the Congress comply with the legislation it passes. I am pleased that this year this legislation was approved of by the other body, and like many of my colleagues I look forward to seeing it signed into law in the very near future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 16 on S. 2, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "yes".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in California because of the floods, just arrived here on the airplane, and inadvertently missed the last vote on rollcall No. 16.

□ 1720

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members are recognized for 5 minutes each.

ON UNFUNDED MANDATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. GILLMOR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GILLMOR asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, this country needs an end to unfunded mandates by the Federal Government on State and local governments. I am delighted to see that this concept is finally receiving broad support from both the public and from this Congress.

I introduced a constitutional amendment a year and a half ago to end those unfunded mandates by constitutional amendment, and what a difference a year and a half makes.

When I first proposed it, most people thought there was almost no chance of ever seeing a constitutional amendment voted on or adopted in this body. But after the November election and after increasing concern shown by Governors and State legislators, we have an excellent chance of getting this issue before both Houses and to a vote.

There is legislation pending to curtail unfunded mandates by statute. I support that. I cosponsored it last

year, and I am cosponsoring it again this year. But the weakness of a statute is that it can be changed by a simple majority vote. And the only real long-term protection is by a constitutional amendment.

During my 22 years in the Ohio Senate, including several terms as Senate President, I witnessed a tremendous increase in the cost and the number of mandates being forced on the States. When the States originally ceded power to the Federal Government, they could not have envisioned a situation where State law would be so lightly overturned and where State funds would be subject to Federal raids.

Unfunded mandates permit the Federal Government to avoid responsibility for its actions. They give the Federal Government the power to reorder and to distort State and local budget priorities. States have had to curtail services they feel are priorities because of those mandates. States have had to cut schools. They have had to cut police protection, programs for senior citizens. They have had to cut police protection.

And examples of unfunded mandates are both large and small. For example, the mayor of Columbus, OH, our capital city, has estimated the cost of unfunded mandates for his city as \$800 per year for every single individual in the city. In 1993, shortly after I introduced the original amendment, I heard from the fire chief of Van Wert, OH, a small city in my district, complaining about Federal regulations that required him to replace the breathing tanks his men use when they enter smoke-filled areas. Not a single one of the tanks were defective or needed to be replaced, but it cost him \$9,500 to replace them.

At the same time he was forced to cut his budget for volunteer firemen. For that \$9,500, the chief could have had 20 volunteer firemen instead of having his force cut down to 5.

There is an EPA requirement that sets atrazine limits at three parts per billion in drinking water. That sounds good until you consider that it would cost one city \$80 million to comply and will not increase public health or safety at all.

How much water does a person have to drink, based on that standard, to have even a remote chance of having any adverse effect on their health? An individual would have to drink 38 bathtubs full of water every day for the rest of his or her life; and for the same amount of money, that city could have hired 3,700 schoolteachers. What has happened is that Congress has been irresponsibly freeloading on the backs of State and local government.

Congress passes a requirement. It takes the credit. But it refuses to pay the burden of the mandates that are created. State and local governments pay the cost. They get the political blame.

Contrary to what some opponents say, this does not prevent Congress from passing anything on health and

safety. It just says, pay for your actions like anybody else. There are some in the Federal Government who have been freeloading and have been irresponsible for so long that they think that freeloading and irresponsibility are virtues.

Now is the time to restore a proper balance in Federal relations. This amendment does not in any way endanger public health or safety. It enhances it by helping assure that public resources are effectively spent and not wasted.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. MINETA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MINETA. Mr. Speaker, this morning, as billions of people around the world know, the cities of Kobe and Osaka in southern Japan were struck with a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake.

As of noon today, Washington time, nearly 1,600 people were known dead, more than 1,000 were missing, and more than 6,000 were injured.

No words are necessary beyond reading that toll to know that the family lives disrupted by this epic tragedy will never heal completely.

And no words are necessary beyond reading this next tally to know that the tremendous physical damage will not soon be repaired:

More than 4,000 buildings were destroyed this morning. Expressway and rail service has either been severed or disrupted in much of western Japan. Power and telecommunications systems have been cut.

These people are now in crisis, and I know that Americans everywhere share in the sadness caused by this tragedy.

We do so because of the suffering involved. And we do so out of a feeling of a *deja vu* that hits still closer to home.

The sad irony of this earthquake in Japan is that this day also marks the 1-year anniversary of the Northridge Earthquake—a 6.7-magnitude quake which killed 61 people and caused 20 billion dollars' worth of damage in the Los Angeles area.

The lesson we should be learning is that the forces of nature continue to strike at will.

The lesson we should be learning is that in our increasingly developed world, the costs of responding to natural disasters and repairing the damage keeps going up—and that we do not have a bottomless checkbook.

Unless and until we act as a nation to mitigate the potential for damage,

Unless we make it possible to recover from natural disasters with lives and communities more intact than is possible under present law,

We will pay a higher and higher cost in lives lost, in the cost to rebuild, and in the dislocation to our economy and society while we rebuild.

As chair of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee in the last Congress, I can tell you that the 1994 Northridge Earthquake and the 1993 Midwest flooding became cases in point—as did hurricanes Andrew and Iniki, and the Loma Prieta Earthquake in earlier years.

Today, California also suffers from statewide flooding in addition to the Northridge memories of a year ago.

Since last Wednesday, I have spent several days examining the destruction caused by the

floods in my State. I have looked at which systems worked, which did not, and how Government agencies and nonprofit voluntary agencies worked to save lives and help communities recover.

These floods reminded me again that we as a nation are not helpless, but that clearly we are not doing all that we can in advance to stave off the human and financial costs of natural disasters.

In the last Congress, the Public Works and Transportation Committee approved legislation—the first of its kind—to get ahead of this particular curve.

This legislation—the Natural Disaster Protection Partnership Act—would create the first public-private partnership to reduce the cost of natural disasters and to keep disaster insurance available and affordable to homeowners so that less of the cleanup and repair cost would be at taxpayer expense.

We would accomplish these two goals in four ways. First, through better preparedness. Second, through spreading out the financial risks, which would lower the costs to homeowners and ensure that coverage would be available.

Third, through better State and local government enforcement of building standards. And fourth, through Federal coordination and required financial backstops to existing insurance pools.

Just about every group affected—from homeowners associations, to consumer advocates, to insurance companies, to emergency service officials—has agreed that the Natural Disaster Protection Partnership Act has the right combination of ideas to end the fear and create greater security, and to do so by putting greater reliance on the private sector.

This is why I was delighted when a bipartisan House task force endorsed the provisions of my bill last month.

If there is any single piece of legislation that cries out for enactment early in this new Congress, it is this one.

Today's earthquake in Japan was another reminder, and warning.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Illinois [Mrs. COLLINS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois, addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Arkansas [Mrs. LINCOLN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. LINCOLN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

□1730

#### RECOMMENDING A FAVORABLE REPORT ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 15

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WELDON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Missouri [Ms. MCCARTHY] is recognized for 5 minutes.