

money will not disappear. It will simply spill over into the funding of the Clean Water Act. While I do not doubt that it could be put to good use there, I believe that our States and our local water systems and ultimately the ratepayers want this money used for the safe drinking water revolving fund established by this bill. Thus the sole guardians of the firewall provisions will be the very individuals whose projects received dollar one if the firewall is to be stripped out. I hope our colleagues on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will work with us to ensure quick conference, a quick resolution and a fair and a proper result.

With the firewall in place, the revolving fund should be largely shielded; and with this motion to instruct, the firewall should remain in place. We would then hopefully have a bill that both sides of this House will be proud of. It will also be a bill that can and will be signed by the President.

We can still pass this bill by August 1. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this motion to instruct the conferees.

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

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS].

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLILEY] for yielding this time to me, and I rise to speak on the motion to instruct.

I think the motion reflects the understandings reached concerning the inclusion of title V within H.R. 3604, the bill to amend and reauthorize the Safe Drinking Water Act approved by the Commerce Committee.

In general, H.R. 3604 provides for a new State revolving fund—or SRF. The express purpose of the SRF is to provide loans and loan guarantees for expenditures that will facilitate compliance with national drinking water standards. SRF funds may only be used for compliance efforts or for other efforts that would significantly further the health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

EPA has estimated that \$8.6 billion is currently needed to bring public water systems into compliance with current standards. H.R. 3604 will go a long ways toward meeting this needs, but the fund needs to be insulated from demands which could compete with its basic purpose.

The language offered in the motion to instruct merely reflects the desire expressed by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to similarly protect the SRF. Statutory language to this effect was included in H.R. 2747, a bill reported from the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to provide water supply infrastructure assistance. H.R. 3604 adopted nearly identical provisions. I therefore urge the adoption of the motion to instruct by the full House of Representatives.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. BOEHLERT], a member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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

□ 1745

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman's motion is a motion to instruct the House conferees to express the House position, a position developed by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, so it is always a pleasure for me to stand on the floor of this House and to thank my colleague, the distinguished gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL], when he is endorsing a position taken by the subcommittee that I am privileged to chair.

I do not have a problem with his language, not at all. Our committee included that language regarding the 75-percent trigger in the safe drinking water bill precisely to address the same type of concerns, real or perceived, that the gentleman has raised. Title V of the House-passed drinking water bill will supplement, not undermine, let me stress that, supplement, not undermine the State revolving fund.

Everyone agrees our priorities should be to capitalize the State revolving fund. The 75-percent trigger is just one of several safeguards to ensure this remains a priority.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I want to repeat, I am pleased to stand on this floor and thank the gentleman from Michigan, the senior Democrat on the Committee on Commerce, for recognizing the work of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. It is through these partnerships that we address a very important national problem and get some results.

I want to comfort my colleague by reminding him that there are no earmarks in this bill, that the funding is contingent upon Congress first appropriating adequate amounts for the State revolving fund, and the grants program is intended for hardship communities and areas. My distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Michigan, I think would agree that they are the communities that deserve the most consideration as we try to go forward and guarantee a cleaner, safer, healthier environment for all Americans.

We have worked well together, and I am pleased to support the gentleman's instructions.

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

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. STUPAK].

The motion to instruct was agreed to.

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

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of the Senate bill (except for sections 28(a) and 28(e)) and the House amendment (except for title V), and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BLILEY, BILIRAKIS, CRAPO, BILBRAY, DINGELL, WAXMAN, and STUPAK.

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of sections 28(a) and 28(e) of the Senate bill, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BLILEY, BILIRAKIS, and DINGELL.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Science, for consideration of that portion of section 3 that adds a new section 1478 and sections 23, 25(f), and 28(f) of the Senate bill, and that portion of section 308 that adds a new section 1452(n) and section 402 and title VI of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. WALKER, ROHRBACHER, and ROEMER.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for the consideration of that portion of section 3 that adds a new section 1471(c) and sections 9, 17, 22(d), 25(a), 25(g), 28(a), 28(e), 28(h), and 28(i) of the Senate bill, and title V of the House amendment and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. SHUSTER, BOEHLERT, WAMP, BORSKI, and MENENDEZ, provided, Mr. BLUTE is appointed in lieu of Mr. WAMP for consideration of title V of the House amendment.

There was no objection.

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3230) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

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

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. DELLUMS  
Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. DELLUMS moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on

the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 3230 be instructed to insist upon—

(1) a total level of funding for operations and maintenance not less than the total of the amounts provided in section 301 of the House bill;

(2) a level of funding for military personnel not less than the amount provided in section 421 of the House bill; and

(3) a total level of funding for military construction and military family housing not less than the total of the amounts provided in division B of the House bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California [Mr. DELLUMS] will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WELDON] will be recognized for 30 minutes.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees today because of my concern that the resolution of issues between the House-passed defense authorization bill and the Senate amendment not be concluded at the expense of our men and women in uniform and their ability to perform their mission.

I am concerned that the conferees may overlook these vital requirements in favor of the plus-ups in major acquisition programs that the service chiefs have not asked for and for which there exists, in this gentleman's opinion, no legitimate military requirement.

Several important accounts are at stake, Mr. Speaker. We have very real quality-of-life concerns for our men and women in uniform and a need to ensure that our military construction accounts are funded sufficiently to meet those requirements. We are conducting operations and training that demand real resources, and our readiness accounts should not be depleted. Perhaps, most importantly, we need to ensure that our military personnel receive the pay and benefits for which they are more than deserving. The quickest way to a hollow force is the loss of neglected personnel.

Mr. Speaker, a consistent theme of this year's defense debate has been the "modernization crisis" caused by a "procurement holiday."

In this gentleman's opinion, Mr. Speaker, the testimony before our committee demonstrates the validity of the administration's modernization strategy. By being able to utilize the equipment made excess by the drawdown of our forces, we have been able to forestall procurement expenditures into the future.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the House should stand by its authorization levels in the personnel, military construction, and readiness accounts, and send a clear message to the other body that in resolving the differences between our two bills that we will make only those investments in modernization that can be justified by requirements, by development and testing, and in relationship to our other priorities.

Last year the House passed, nearly unanimously, a measure instructing conferees not to recede from the House readiness funding level. Nonetheless, some readiness funding was indeed sacrificed to save procurement programs that the service chiefs had not requested.

In offering this motion, Mr. Speaker, it is this gentleman's hope that we will be able again to send a message to the other body that we remain serious about our commitment to our personnel, their quality of life, and their readiness, and that we will not retreat this year from our baseline commitment to meeting those needs.

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

□ 1800

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the gentleman from South Carolina, FLOYD SPENCE, the distinguished chairman of the Committee on National Security, and agree with my colleague in the motion to instruct. We on this side have looked at the motion and agree with the contents and think it is well stated. Certainly we agree with it, and we think our actions speak to the points raised in the motion to instruct.

The chairman of the full committee would be here, but at this point in time he is joining a number of our colleagues as we in this body pay tribute to the distinguished former chairman of our committee, Les Aspin, in unveiling the portrait of him which will hang in our committee hearing room. So Chairman SPENCE is speaking at this point in time or else he would be here on the floor to lead this discussion.

But I rise to say to my friend and colleague and distinguished ranking member of the full committee that we agree with him and we agree with the motion in terms of the three key issues and areas that he has focused on, and we think our actions in the bill in fact speak to those issues. We think that we have addressed the issue of modernization but, at the same point in time, have taken those steps in terms of readiness, in terms of quality of life, that will allow us to keep up the morale and protect the well-being of those troops that are serving this country today around the world.

In the area of key personnel actions, Mr. Speaker, we have included a 4.6 percent increase in the bachelor allowance for quarters to combine the department's highly touted underfunded 6-year effort to reduce out-of-pocket housing expenses. We support a 3 percent military pay raise. We provide for a substantial package of enhancements for permanent change of station move reimbursements, and we establish a minimum variable housing allowance to ensure all service personnel are compensated at a level sufficient to acquire safe and adequate housing in high-cost areas.

In the area of key infrastructure improvements, Mr. Speaker, we provide \$214 million, 38 percent above the President's request, in added funding to the construction of new barracks and dormitories. We provide \$303 million, 45 percent above the President's request, in added funding for the construction of new family housing units and the improvement of existing units. We provide \$28 million, nearly 5 times the President's request, in added funding to build new child development centers. We provide \$25 million, more than double the President's request in added funding to support the ability of the Secretary of Defense to enter into public-private partnerships to produce more military housing at a lower cost to the taxpayer.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, in terms of key morale, welfare and recreation improvements, we provide \$60 million in additional funding for high priority MWR programs identified by the Defense Science Board Task Force on Quality of Life.

Mr. Speaker, there are just a few of the highlights, but they are totally consistent with the points raised by the distinguished ranking member of this committee. They are well founded, and therefore, on behalf of FLOYD SPENCE, I would say that the majority agrees with this motion to instruct.

We look forward to working with the distinguished ranking member as we move toward the conference and, as conferees are appointed, to negotiate the differences that we have with our Senate counterparts and reach a final bill that hopefully the President will sign into law.

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion offered by my good friend and colleague from California.

The military personnel provisions passed by the House of Representatives as part of the fiscal year 1997 defense authorization bill solidly support quality of life and readiness efforts. These provisions reflect the continued support of this House for our military service members.

To highlight just a few of these provisions, the military personnel titles include a 3 percent military pay raise, requested by the President, as well as a 4.6 percent increase in the basic allowance for quarters—BAQ. This increase in BAQ will fully fund a 1 percent reduction in out-of-pocket housing expenses for service members.

The military personnel titles passed by the House provide the Secretary of Defense with the authority to establish a minimum variable housing allowance so that even very junior service members can acquire safe and adequate housing in high cost areas. Additionally, there are provisions that make several enhancements to the reimbursements for permanent change of station moves. Military members should not be forced to use their personal savings to offset the cost of a Government-directed move.

To minimize the readiness impact of continued shortfalls in the Army military personnel account, the House bill includes nearly \$150 million more than the President's budget request for the Army military personnel account.

The House bill also restores the nearly half a billion dollar shortfall in the defense health program. Medical care consistently rates as a top quality of life issue. Not resolving this issue would have dire consequences for active-duty family members and retirees who have a difficult enough time already trying to obtain medical care in military facilities. Failure to meet this need would involve a significant breach of faith with our military members and retirees.

I remind my colleagues that the most important component of readiness is people. The people serving in uniform today were selectively recruited and carefully trained. They are truly the finest force that the United States has ever had.

Readiness must be preserved both in the near-term and in the long-term. Readiness problems compound quickly and cannot be repaired easily or inexpensively. The military personnel that we put in harm's way deserve a full and continuing commitment from this Congress. The House of Representatives has met that commitment in the DOD bill we passed.

The military personnel provisions of the House bill continue the progress toward an improved quality of life for our military men and women while ensuring a well-trained, ready force. It confirms our commitment to readiness, training and taking care of the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces.

I urge my colleagues to ratify their effort by voting for Mr. DELLUM's motion to instruct House conferees to support the higher House figure for military personnel and readiness programs.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, first I would like to thank my distinguished colleague for his remarks. I appreciate his comments and further appreciate the support. This is a bipartisan motion to instruct conferees.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. DELLUMS].

The motion to instruct was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**MOTION TO CLOSE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON H.R. 3230, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997, WHEN CLASSIFIED NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION IS UNDER CONSIDERATION**

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania moves, pursuant to clause 6(a) of Rule XXVIII, that con-

ference committee meetings on the bill H.R. 3230, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense programs of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the armed forces, and for other purposes, be closed to the public at such times as classified national security information is under consideration, provided, however, that any sitting Member of Congress shall have the right to attend any closed or open meeting.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. WELDON].

Under the rule, the vote on this motion must be taken by the yeas and nays.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 412, nays 3, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 326]

YEAS—412

Abercrombie  
Ackerman  
Allard  
Andrews  
Archer  
Armye  
Bachus  
Baesler  
Baker (CA)  
Baker (LA)  
Baldacci  
Ballenger  
Barcia  
Barr  
Barrett (NE)  
Barrett (WI)  
Bartlett  
Barton  
Bass  
Bateman  
Becerra  
Beilenson  
Bentsen  
Bereuter  
Berman  
Bevill  
Bilbray  
Bilirakis  
Bishop  
Bliley  
Blumenauer  
Blute  
Boehler  
Boehner  
Bonilla  
Bonior  
Bono  
Borski  
Boucher  
Brewster  
Browder  
Brown (CA)  
Brown (FL)  
Brown (OH)  
Brownback  
Bryant (TN)  
Bryant (TX)  
Bunn  
Bunning  
Burr  
Burton  
Buyer  
Callahan  
Calvert  
Camp  
Campbell  
Canady  
Cardin  
Castle  
Chabot  
Chambliss  
Chenoweth  
Christensen  
Chrystler  
Clay  
Clayton  
Clement  
Clinger

Clyburn  
Coble  
Coburn  
Coleman  
Collins (GA)  
Collins (IL)  
Collins (MI)  
Combest  
Condit  
Conyers  
Cooley  
Costello  
Cox  
Coyne  
Cramer  
Crane  
Crapo  
Cremeans  
Cubin  
Cummings  
Cunningham  
Danner  
Davis  
Deal  
DeLauro  
DeLay  
Dellums  
Deutsch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dickey  
Dicks  
Dingell  
Dixon  
Doggett  
Dooley  
Doolittle  
Dornan  
Doyle  
Dreier  
Duncan  
Dunn  
Edwards  
Ehlers  
Ehrlich  
Engel  
English  
Ensign  
Eshoo  
Evans  
Everett  
Ewing  
Farr  
Fattah  
Fawell  
Fazio  
Fields (LA)  
Fields (TX)  
Filner  
Flake  
Flanagan  
Foglietta  
Foley  
Forbes  
Ford  
Fowler  
Fox  
Frank (MA)  
Franks (CT)

Franks (NJ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Frisa  
Frost  
Funderburk  
Furse  
Gallegly  
Ganske  
Gejdenson  
Gekas  
Gephardt  
Gibbons  
Cox  
Gillmor  
Gilman  
Gonzalez  
Goodlatte  
Goodling  
Gordon  
Goss  
Graham  
Green (TX)  
Greene (UT)  
Greenwood  
Gunderson  
Gutierrez  
Gutknecht  
Hall (TX)  
Hamilton  
Hancock  
Hansen  
Harman  
Hastert  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayes  
Hayworth  
Hefley  
Hefner  
Heineman  
Herger  
Hilleary  
Hilliard  
Hinchey  
Hobson  
Hoekstra  
Hoke  
Holden  
Horn  
Hostettler  
Houghton  
Hoyer  
Hutchinson  
Hyde  
Inglis  
Istook  
Jackson (IL)  
Jackson-Lee (TX)  
Jacobs  
Jefferson  
Johnson (CT)  
Johnson (SD)  
Johnson, E. B.  
Johnson, Sam  
Johnston  
Jones  
Kanjorski

Kaptur  
Kasich  
Kelly  
Kennedy (MA)  
Kennedy (RI)  
Kennelly  
Kildee  
Kim  
King  
Kingston  
Klecicka  
Klink  
Klug  
Knollenberg  
Kolbe  
LaFalce  
LaHood  
Lantos  
Largent  
Latham  
LaTourette  
Laughlin  
Lazio  
Leach  
Levin  
Lewis (CA)  
Lewis (GA)  
Lewis (KY)  
Lightfoot  
Linder  
Lipinski  
Livingston  
LoBiondo  
Lofgren  
Longley  
Lowey  
Lucas  
Luther  
Maloney  
Manton  
Manzullo  
Markey  
Martinez  
Martini  
Cox  
Mascara  
Matsui  
McCarthy  
McCullum  
McCrery  
McDermott  
McHale  
McHugh  
McInnis  
McIntosh  
McKeon  
McKinney  
McNulty  
Meehan  
Meek  
Menendez  
Metcalfe  
Meyers  
Mica  
Millender-  
McDonald  
Miller (FL)  
Minge  
Mink  
Moakley  
Molinaro

Mollohan  
Montgomery  
Moorhead  
Moran  
Morella  
Myers  
Myrick  
Nadler  
Neal  
Nethercutt  
Neumann  
Ney  
Norwood  
Nussle  
Oberstar  
Obey  
Olver  
Ortiz  
Orton  
Owens  
Oxley  
Pallone  
Parker  
Pastor  
Paxon  
Payne (NJ)  
Payne (VA)  
Pelosi  
Peterson (FL)  
Peterson (MN)  
Lipinski  
Pickett  
Pombo  
Pomeroy  
Porter  
Portman  
Poshard  
Pryce  
Quillen  
Quinn  
Radanovich  
Rahall  
Ramstad  
Rangel  
Reed  
Regula  
Richardson  
Riggs  
Rivers  
Roberts  
Roemer  
Rogers  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Roth  
Roukema  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Rush  
Sabo  
Salmon  
Sanders  
Sanford  
Sawyer  
Saxton  
Scarborough  
Schaefer  
Schiff  
Schroeder  
Schumer

Scott  
Seastrand  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Shadegg  
Shaw  
Shays  
Shuster  
Sisisky  
Skaggs  
Skeen  
Skelton  
Smith (MI)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (TX)  
Smith (WA)  
Solomon  
Souder  
Spence  
Spratt  
Stearns  
Stenholm  
Stockman  
Stokes  
Studds  
Stump  
Talent  
Tanner  
Tate  
Tauzin  
Petri  
Taylor (MS)  
Taylor (NC)  
Tejeda  
Thomas  
Thompson  
Thornberry  
Thornton  
Thurman  
Tiahrt  
Torkildsen  
Torres  
Torrice  
Towns  
Traficant  
Upton  
Velazquez  
Vento  
Visclosky  
Volkmer  
Vucanovich  
Walker  
Walsh  
Wamp  
Ward  
Watt (NC)  
Watts (OK)  
Waxman  
Weldon (FL)  
Weldon (PA)  
Weller  
White  
Whitfield  
Wicker  
Williams  
Wise  
Woolsey  
Wynn  
Young (AK)  
Zeliff  
Zimmer

NAYS—3

DeFazio

Stark Waters

NOT VOTING—18

Chapman  
de la Garza  
Durbin  
Geren  
Hall (OH)  
Hunter

Lincoln  
McDade  
Miller (CA)  
Murtha  
Packard  
Rose  
Slaughter  
Stupak  
Wilson  
Wolf  
Yates  
Young (FL)

□ 1834

So the motion was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

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

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise our Members on both