practice of reducing retirement pay based on disability payments, and this will be done by the year 2007.

I am very pleased that the legislation also includes the administration's proposal to accelerate cleanup of former nuclear weapon production sites throughout the country. This year the Bush administration has made a strong commitment to our environment through the environmental management, or EM, program at the Department of Defense. As the chairman of the House Nuclear Cleanup Caucus, I appreciate the commitment of the committee to ensure that our Nation's commitment to cleaning up these sites, which represent the greatest environmental challenges in the country, will continue on track.

The legislation provides at least $800 million to a new cleanup account to accelerate and reform cleanup of the highest risk environmental threats in the U.S. in a new and profoundly different manner. This new account will implement the results of the Department's year long, top-to-bottom review of the EM program. The account will direct dollars to accelerate cleanup throughout the Nation without compromising safety and embracing reforms to ensure that the best commercial practices and technology drive the program in the future.

Most important, however, is the commitment to drive more program dollars directly to cleanup and risk reduction, which will accelerate cleanup by decades at these sites throughout the country and save the American taxpayers tens of billions of dollars in the future.

I am convinced that this program will be successful, and I am proud that the Hanford site in my district has led the Nation in reaching the first agreement under the new cleanup account. This agreement, which was agreed to by the Bush administration, the Governor of the State of Washington and the EPA, will direct $433 million out of this new account to Hanford. This historic agreement, when fully implemented, will result in cost savings of $33 billion and will accelerate cleanup by 35 to 45 years. This is truly a remarkable commitment to our environment, and I look forward to additional sites reaching similar agreements in the future.

Mr. Speaker, this agreement will provide a 5-year funding commitment instead of the year-to-year hassle that we go through every year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support the rule and the underlying legislation.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS).

(Mr. HASTINGS of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I will vote for H.R. 4546, the Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003. It is noteworthy that it is named for the chairman, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STUMP), and it will be a tremendous legacy once finalized.

The bill has flaws, however, and there were numerous amendments that were offered by Members on both sides of the aisle which were not made part of this rule.

However, I do feel overall that the rule will allow for support for our fighting men and women as they wage war against terrorism. It equips them with the technology, training and personnel that they need to attain victory, and also demonstrates our commitment to providing an improved quality of life in granting of funds for military living and working facilities.

However, due to the structured rule, we have been denied the opportunity to debate several amendments, including one I introduced. The amendment I introduced would have increased funding currently authorized for military health care by $2.5 million, with the necessary offsets that would not have affected the Pentagon at all. Not $25 million, not $250 million, but just $2.5 million specifically for retirees and their dependents.

In addition to serving active duty, the military and their families, the military health system provides services to military retirees and their dependents. While the number of people on active duty is not projected to increase dramatically over the next few years, the number of retirees and their dependents, especially over the age of 65, will. We face immense challenges in this regard.

I regret that the structured rule has denied me and other Members the opportunity to provide a much-needed boost to the military health care system. Be assured that my support, as my colleagues, for our military extends to support for veterans and their families, and I will continue to support them however, wherever, and whenever I can.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for H.R. 4546, the Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003. This bill shows the nation's unwavering support for our fighting men and women as they wage war against terrorism. It equips them with the technology, training and personnel they need to attain victory. It also demonstrates our commitment to providing an improved quality of life in the granting of funds for upgrades to military living and working facilities.

However, due to the structured rule, we have been denied the opportunity to debate the amendment I introduced.

My amendment would have increased funding currently authorized for military health care by $2.5 million, specifically for retires and their dependents.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to serving active duty military and their families, the military health system provides services to military retirees and their dependents. While the number of people on active duty is not projected to increase dramatically over the next few years, the number of retirees and their dependents, especially those over the age of 65, will.

The greatest challenge facing the military health care system is caring for retirees—especially those over the age of 65.

Again, I regret that the structured rule has denied me the opportunity to provide a much needed boost to the military health care system. Be assured that my support for our military extends to support for veterans and their families and I will continue to support them however, wherever, and whenever I can.

Mr. Speaker, there are a few other aspects of this bill that remain troublesome—one concerns our environment and the other concerns the deployment of American troops in Colombia. Regrettably, this structured rule has denied us the opportunity for further debate on these two important issues.

This bill grants special exemptions to the Department of Defense environmental programs. This provision is, and I quote, ''intended to restore a balance between environmental responsibilities and military readiness.'' It relieves DoD, when conducting training exercises, from observing the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Act, and the Marine Mammal Act.

The ESA already contains a provision that permits DoD to request a waiver from compliance with the Endangered Species Act if that compliance poses a threat to national security. I question the necessity of granting the Department of Defense with a blanket exclusion from the laws that the rest of us must adhere to.

An amendment, offered by Mr. MALONEY sought to strike this language from the bill, and another from Ms. SANCHEZ required annual reports from DoD on its stewardship of the environmentally sensitive areas on military bases. Both of these amendments would have initiated a much needed debate on this issue, but we have denied that right by the rule that has been invoked.

Secondly, Mr. TAYLOR offered an amendment to limit the number of U.S. troops in Colombia to not more than 500. Mr. Speaker, I have some grave concerns about the necessity of increasing the number of American troops currently in Colombia and would have welcomed the opportunity to debate this issue with my colleagues.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. 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. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 44, nays 366, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 134]

YEAS—44

Allen
Andrews
Barton
Berry
Brady (PA)
Capuano
Conyers
Crowley
DeFazio
Dingell
Doggett
Filner
Frank
Hastings (FL)
Hinchey
Holt
Honda
Jefferson
Lampson
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee
Lewis (GA)
McDermott
McGovern
Miller, George
Mink
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Sandlin
Schakowsky
Shows
Slaughter
Spratt
Stark
Tanner
Taylor (MS)
Towns
Waters
Woolsey
Wu

NAYS—366

Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett
Bartlett
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilirakis
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Boozman
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (TX)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Bryant
Burr
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Cardin
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crenshaw
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fossella
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grucci
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (TX)
Hansen
Harman
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kerns
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kleczka
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Lynch
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Mascara
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCrery
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Millender-McDonald
Miller, Dan
Miller, Gary
Miller, Jeff
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Otter
Oxley
Pastor
Paul
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reyes
Reynolds
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sawyer
Saxton
Schiff
Schrock
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skelton
Smith (MI)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Stupak
Sullivan
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velazquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins (OK)
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Wynn
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—24

Abercrombie
Bishop
Burton
Clay
Crane
Cubin
Hall (OH)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Kaptur
Maloney (CT)
Meehan
Moran (VA)
Napolitano
Norwood
Ose
Peterson (PA)
Riley
Schaffer
Skeen
Smith (NJ)
Traficant
Watson (CA)
Waxman
Young (AK)

□ 1139

Messrs. SAXTON, COBLE, GALLEGLY, ROGERS of Michigan, and Mrs. MALONEY of New York and Ms. HART changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the motion to adjourn was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4546, BOB STUMP NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). The Chair would advise that the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. MYRICK) has 20 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST) has 19 minutes remaining.

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS), another member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, today we are considering this rule and the debate that certainly concerns our support of the United States military and the men and women who represent us. We are talking in this bill about a better pay raise, a pay raise where we are able to keep the brightest and the best. We are talking about better housing for our men and women; we are talking about increasing our readiness; we are talking about research and development; we are talking about counterterrorism. We are trying to talk about the issues which I perceive are important to the military in this country.

However, perhaps the most key component is we are going to talk about homeland security today, and there is one amendment which will be discussed today that says that no funds for 2003 appropriations for the Department of Defense may be used for space-based national defense programs.

Mr. Speaker, I would tell my colleagues that I believe that now, more than ever, this Congress should focus on not only ballistic missile threats that face this country, because it is not just what is aimed at our military, it is what is aimed at our homeland. Our homeland security is now an issue.

Mr. Speaker, there are more than 28 countries outside the United States that possess not only ballistic missiles, but the desire and the threat to not only threaten America, but also our allies. These 28 countries, as we look around, many of them represent belligerent countries who would wish for America to be harmed. These 28 countries possess the ability to threaten the United States and our military and our allies.

What is important about this debate is that we need to understand what our President has said about it. President Bush has said, America's development of a missile defense is a search for security, not a search for advantage.

Mr. Speaker, homeland security for America is what this bill is also about. I support this rule, I support this bill, and I hope Members will focus on homeland security and the support our President gives for this bill.

□ 1145

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), a member of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I oppose this rule. The defense authorization bill provides a waiver to the Secretary of Defense to get around the current cap on U.S. military personnel in Colombia.

I strongly oppose such a waiver. It is a serious abrogation of the duties of this Congress to monitor and provide oversight to our military programs and presence in Colombia. I oppose this waiver because it provides the Secretary of Defense with the ability for an unrestricted escalation of U.S. military personnel in Colombia and further engages in that country's 40-year-old civil war, a war that Colombia's government has failed to adequately support.

The gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) offered an amendment to