

Hensarling	McGovern	Sabo
Herger	McHugh	Sánchez, Linda
Herse	McIntyre	T.
Hill	McKeon	Sanchez, Loretta
Hinchey	McNulty	Sanders
Hinojosa	Meehan	Sandlin
Hobson	Meek (FL)	Saxton
Hoekstra	Meeks (NY)	Schakowsky
Holden	Menendez	Schiff
Holt	Mica	Scott (GA)
Honda	Michaud	Scott (VA)
Hooley (OR)	Millender-	Sensenbrenner
Hostettler	McDonald	Serrano
Houghton	Miller (FL)	Shadegg
Hoyer	Miller (MI)	Shaw
Hunter	Miller (NC)	Shays
Hyde	Miller, Gary	Sherman
Inslee	Miller, George	Sherwood
Isakson	Moore	Shimkus
Israel	Moran (KS)	Shuster
Issa	Murphy	Simmons
Istook	Musgrave	Skelton
Jackson (IL)	Myrick	Slaughter
Jackson-Lee	Nadler	Smith (MI)
(TX)	Napolitano	Smith (NJ)
Jefferson	Neal (MA)	Smith (TX)
Jenkins	Neugebauer	Smith (WA)
Johnson (CT)	Ney	Snyder
Johnson (IL)	Northup	Solis
Johnson, E. B.	Norwood	Souder
Johnson, Sam	Nussle	Spratt
Jones (NC)	Obey	Stearns
Kanjorski	Oliver	Stenholm
Kaptur	Ortiz	Strickland
Keller	Osborne	Stupak
Kelly	Ose	Sullivan
Kennedy (MN)	Otter	Sweeney
Kennedy (RI)	Oxley	Tancredo
Kildee	Pallone	Tanner
Kilpatrick	Pascarella	Tauscher
Kind	Pastor	Taylor (MS)
King (IA)	Paul	Taylor (NC)
King (NY)	Payne	Terry
Kingston	Pearce	Thomas
Kirk	Pelosi	Thompson (CA)
Klecza	Pence	Thompson (MS)
Kline	Peterson (MN)	Thornberry
Knollenberg	Peterson (PA)	Tiahrt
Kucinich	Petri	Tiberi
LaHood	Pickering	Tierney
Langevin	Pitts	Toomey
Lantos	Platts	Turner (OH)
Larsen (WA)	Pombo	Turner (TX)
Larson (CT)	Pomeroy	Udall (CO)
LaTourette	Porter	Udall (NM)
Leach	Portman	Upton
Lee	Price (NC)	Van Hollen
Levin	Pryce (OH)	Velázquez
Lewis (CA)	Quinn	Visclosky
Lewis (GA)	Radanovich	Vitter
Lewis (KY)	Rahall	Walden (OR)
Linder	Ramstad	Walsh
LoBiondo	Rehberg	Wamp
Lofgren	Reyes	Waters
Lowey	Reynolds	Watson
Lucas (KY)	Rodriguez	Waxman
Lynch	Rogers (AL)	Weiner
Maloney	Rogers (KY)	Weldon (PA)
Manzulio	Rogers (MI)	Weller
Markey	Rohrabacher	Whitfield
Marshall	Ros-Lehtinen	Wicker
Matheson	Rothman	Wilson (NM)
Matsui	Roybal-Allard	Wilson (SC)
McCarthy (MO)	Royce	Wolf
McCarthy (NY)	Ruppersberger	Woolsey
McCotter	Ryan (WI)	Wu
McCrery	Ryun (KS)	Wynn
McDermott		Young (FL)

## ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

McCollum

## NOT VOTING—52

Baker	Grijalva	Nethercutt
Ballenger	Gutierrez	Nunes
Bilirakis	Hoeffel	Oberstar
Brady (TX)	Hulshof	Owens
Burr	John	Putnam
Cannon	Jones (OH)	Rangel
Carson (IN)	Kolbe	Regula
Carson (OK)	Lampson	Renzi
Clyburn	Latham	Rush
Davis (FL)	Lipinski	Ryan (OH)
Engel	Lucas (OK)	Schrook
Flake	Majette	Sessions
Franks (AZ)	McInnis	Simpson
Frost	Mollohan	Stark
Galleghy	Moran (VA)	
Gephardt	Murtha	

Tauzin  
Towns

Watt  
Weldon (FL)

Wexler  
Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLINE) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1913

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday September 7, 2004, I was attending a funeral and missed the day's votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

(1) On motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4381—Harvey and Bernice Jones Post Office Building Designation Act, I would have voted "yea."

(2) On motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4556—General William Carey Lee Post Office Building Designation Act, I would have voted "yea."

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 1308, TAX RELIEF, SIMPLIFICATION, AND EQUITY ACT OF 2003

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to rule XXII, clause 7(c), I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct on H.R. 1308, Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act of 2003.

The form of this motion is as follows:

I move that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 1308 be instructed to agree, to the maximum extent possible within the scope of conference, to a conference report that

(1) extends the tax relief provisions which expire at the end of 2004; and

(2) does not increase the Federal budget deficit.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on any additional motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote will be taken tomorrow.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR DISASTER RELIEF ACT, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5005) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the

fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, for additional disaster assistance.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5005

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, to provide emergency supplemental appropriations for additional disaster assistance, namely:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE  
DISASTER RELIEF

For an additional amount for "Disaster Relief", \$2,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which up to \$30,000,000 may be transferred to "Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses", for administrative expenses to carry out the disaster loans program authorized by section 7(b) of the Small Business Act: *Provided*, That the amounts provided herein are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 402 of S. Con. Res. 95 (108th Congress), as made applicable to the House of Representatives by H. Res. 649 (108th Congress) and applicable to the Senate by section 14007 of Public Law 108-287.

This Act may be cited as the "Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2004".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to yield 5 minutes of my time to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) is recognized and will control 25 minutes of the debate.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill H.R. 5005, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, for additional disaster assistance.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) for yielding me the additional time because, as you might expect, many Members of the Florida delegation would like to be heard on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has responded many, many times to natural disasters in different parts of the country; but I cannot remember any time when an entire State, and I mean everybody in the State, was actually affected by a series

of natural disasters in one way or another. Unfortunately, thanks to Tropical Storm Bonnie and Hurricane Charley and Hurricane Frances, that is exactly what has happened to Florida in the last couple of weeks, and we are still feeling the effects.

As a matter of fact, our sister States to the north, Georgia and the Carolinas, and probably Virginia, sometime tonight are all going to feel some of the effects of Hurricane Frances.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to compliment the President of the United States, the Governor of Florida, the director of FEMA, and the State and local emergency disaster responders for the tremendous way they have all worked together to help the people of Florida recover.

□ 1915

Mr. Speaker, the damage has been severe. If Members have watched the television screens, they know what I am talking about. It has been total disaster in some parts of our State.

This supplemental bill is a bill for \$2 billion. It is an emergency declaration. The reason we have tried to move this bill as quickly as we can, FEMA, which is handling basically the Federal response, runs out of money probably by midnight tonight. Rather than interrupt the cash flow to the emergency workers in Florida, we are trying to move this bill. Hopefully our brothers and sisters in the other body will move it quickly tonight, and it will be on the President's desk so there is no interruption in the cash flow to the people who need it in Florida.

This is not going to cover all of the costs of the natural disasters that we are dealing with and have been dealing with, but we will take that up at a later date. This is an emergency measure to keep the cash flow moving into Florida and FEMA.

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

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2½ minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident we will find overwhelming support in the House for this measure. I am certain it will be bipartisan to a very great degree. I certainly expect to be voting for it.

I would simply make one observation in the process, however. We should not be surprised that FEMA is at this point running out of money, because in the conference on the legislative appropriation bill last year when additional supplemental funding for FEMA was being attached, a number of us on this side of the aisle warned at that time, I know the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS) did, I know I did, we warned at that time that because we were appropriating \$800 million less than the historical average of the last 5 years, we would not have enough money without additional funding. And now because of that shortfall, it is obvious we have no choice but to move tonight.

I would simply say I hope in the future any administration, regardless of party, will request the amount that represents their full expectations of national need in terms of dealing with disasters.

I would also hope in the long run we can come up with a better way to finance national disasters, because it seems to me that there ought to be some kind of a self-insurance fund established between the States, backed up and guaranteed by the Federal Government so we do not have to keep funding this on a horseback basis every time there is another problem. We ought to be able to fund this program much the way we fund worker's compensation, with an insurance fund into which States buy on an experience-rated basis. That would be much more fiscally responsible than the way we go about it these days.

Having said that, I urge support on both sides of the aisle for this request. I know the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) is most concerned about it. These storms have affected his district significantly. I have been to his district, and it is a beautiful place. As soon as we can get this money down to those folks who need it, the better.

There are a lot of my neighbors in Wisconsin who spend their winters in areas of Florida hit by these two storms, and we fully expect yet another storm to be hitting the Southeastern region of the country within a very short period of time. I think we have no choice tonight but to act on this measure.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW), and just note the last time we spoke was on the telephone as Hurricane Frances was coming ashore right over his house.

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) for yielding me this time, and I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), the ranking member.

When a disaster happens in America, we are not Democrats and Republicans, we are Americans, and we care about each other. We suffer with each other, we cry with each other, and we pray with each other.

I was taken by a photograph which was in this morning's Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel of a woman who had just lost her entire home, and she was on her way to get in line for some ice and water. This tells us how quickly we can lose everything in this world, and how important it is that we as a Nation pull together and come forward with some relief which is so badly needed.

Up in the central part of the State, we had Hurricane Frances following Charley, which was described on television as big as the State of Texas. It covered the entire State of Florida, as the chairman correctly pointed out.

I also want to be sure that we give proper credit to the gentleman from

Florida (Mr. YOUNG), the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, who started putting together this appropriation bill even as the hurricane was still coming ashore, and maybe before that because of Hurricane Charley and the losses we sustained. I know my daughter in DeLand, Florida, ancient, gorgeous oak trees in her back lawn, gone. My son in Orlando, a huge oak tree fell on his house. These things can change lives in no time.

I think it is remarkable when we see the expedited process that has been used here, and this has been done because we have got good cooperation on both sides of the aisle. The Speaker has been great to bring this up. Over in the Senate, we will pass this very clean bill in record time, and it will go to the President. This bill will become signed into law before Hurricane Frances has even left the continental United States. In fact, we may be feeling the winds of this storm right here in Washington, D.C., while the President is signing the bill which will give us a bridge to the relief we need.

On behalf of all of the people of Florida and the Florida delegation, I thank this House, I thank the Senate and the President of the United States for this expedited procedure. This is remarkable, and it does show that we as Americans deeply care.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) for yielding me this time. I thank he and the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) for their steadfast support for the victims of Charley and Frances. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW) has put in immeasurable time and work, as have others of us who have been directly impacted.

I rise tonight in strong support of this emergency supplemental appropriations measure. I also echo the words of the chairman when he stated earlier today that this bill must merely be a down payment of disaster assistance to Florida's hurricane victims. I know that all of our colleagues join me in expressing sympathy and understanding to those who lost their homes, their belongings, and in some cases their loved ones who were either killed or injured to Charley and Frances. We stand united in our efforts to help those who have lost so much.

In the district that I am privileged to represent, the wrath and strength of Frances is clear and evident. Hundreds of homes have literally been destroyed and all but scraps of wood remain. Our citrus, sugar and tomato fields are flooded, and more than 2 million homes remain without electricity days after the storm has passed and for some days to come. For the millions who have been affected, life has come to a standstill.

As a fifth-generation Floridian, I know firsthand that hurricanes and

tropical storms are part of life in south Florida. But if Andrew, and most recently Charley and Frances, taught us anything, it is that the resilience of our community to recover and rebuild is stronger than anything Mother Nature will ever throw our way. With time and the necessary resources, I am confident we will recover.

I am deeply grateful to the full leadership of both sides in this instance, and our hearts go out to those that have lost so much. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG), the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW), all of us in Florida really have a lot of work to do in the future. Like the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) spoke about establishing an appropriate relief fund, it is something long overdue in this Congress, and this may be a good first step for us to be reminded that it is time for us to have a disaster fund in Congress.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR), who had floods of 6 to 7 feet in Virginia streets from Tropical Storm Gaston.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY), the ranking member, for bringing this bill forward in such an expedited fashion.

As the chairman suggested, many States in this country, especially in the Southeast, have felt the effects of devastating hurricanes and tropical storms. On August 30, which was Tuesday of last week, Tropical Storm Gaston unleashed 10 to 14 inches of rain on Richmond, Virginia, over the span of only 4 hours. This massive rainfall was responsible for the loss of eight lives, heavy flooding, and millions of dollars of property damage.

As Richmonders began the long clean-up, the costs are beginning to mount. The storm caused 20 blocks in Richmond to be condemned as uninhabitable and did what is expected to be \$60 million to \$80 million of damage. Business owners and residents in Richmond lost their homes, companies and cars because of the rapid flooding. One of the hardest-hit areas, Shockoe Bottom, is a busy commercial area of Richmond, and its destruction will dramatically affect the area's economy.

Last week I wrote the President to ask that Virginians affected by Tropical Storm Gaston be given immediate Federal assistance. Friday, President Bush responded swiftly by declaring these hard-hit areas of central Virginia Federal disaster areas, allowing them to be eligible for loans and grants through FEMA and the Small Business Administration.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I am here in support of the chairman's bill for the supplemental funding for FEMA and SBA to respond to the storm. Disaster relief and emergency aid that FEMA and SBA are providing in Richmond is one of the best and most appropriate functions of government, and one in which Congress should fully invest.

These additional grants will allow these individuals, homeowners, business owners and local governments, who are, again, as the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) has said, now as we speak, are facing the damaging and flooding rains of Hurricane Frances, to quickly get back on their feet. That is why I am here to support its swift passage.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK), a member of the committee.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be on the floor not only with the gentleman from Wisconsin, but also with the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is very important not only for Members of Congress, but the rest of the United States to understand that Florida has gone through quite a bit, and there are other States that are affected as relates to the flooding and some of the aftermath of the hurricanes.

□ 1930

But I also want to add, and I want the Members and I know it is not in this bill, I know we have \$2 billion that is going to FEMA. We have, I believe, \$30 million going to the Small Business Administration. But I think it is important to remember that the VA was also hit in this storm. In Palm Beach, I know some of the Members can attest to it, that it is important that we have emergency funding in a bill, not in this particular bill, but in another supplemental coming up for the losses that the Department of Veterans Affairs was not included in this bill.

The VA in West Palm Beach and in the middle of this storm, clinics in Brevard and also Port Charlotte received lesser damage than their main facility in West Palm Beach. In the middle of the storm, it was flooded. They had to move people to the second floor. That is something that we definitely need to think about, and I know it is something we will include, hopefully, in the future for these patriots that have laid it down for the very democracy that we celebrate today.

But I am excited about the fact that not only Floridians but also others can count on the Congress responding in the way that we are, because we are spending their tax dollars. It is not like we are giving them something. This is something that they have invested in our government, rightfully so; and we are responding to them in their time of need.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage, like I know that Members will, when they open the board up to allow an opportunity to vote on this emergency supplemental, I am pretty sure that every Member of this Congress will be in support of that. I would like to commend the local governments and their response to our recent natural disasters and their continued support and commitment. Also to those Floridians that have lost time

and wages from their jobs and small businesses. This is very timely. I want to thank the ranking member for allowing me to have time, but let us also remember our veterans and VA hospitals.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds. I want to assure my very distinguished friend and colleague from Florida that we understand that there are many expenses that will need to be covered, but we do not know exactly what they are yet; so this is really a stopgap to keep the cash flowing to Florida today. But we will revisit this and the President has acknowledged that he would be asking for an additional supplemental once those figures are available to us. We are going to move quickly. I appreciate the gentleman's comments.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I know a wise man such as himself is fully aware of what I just shared with the other Members. I want to thank the gentleman for sharing that with the rest of us.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FOLEY), who experienced not only Frances but Charley as well.

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to thank the wonderful hardworking and dedicated employees of the emergency operating centers of Charlotte County, Highlands, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Okeechobee, Glades, and Hendry. I would like to thank Mike Brown and his capable staff at FEMA. I would like to thank President Bush for visiting our citizens in the storm-ravaged communities of Punta Gorda and, tomorrow, Fort Pierce. I would like to thank Governor Bush for his tireless commitment to our State's fragile citizens, the United Way, and the Red Cross.

It is amazing to me how beautiful this Nation is when our fellow citizens have been found wanting and hurting. You have all heard the plea from Florida's citizens for help, and you have answered that plea today, not just with money but with prayers, not just with prayers but with help, and not just with help but with hope. We will rebuild. We will be stronger and better than ever. I ask my citizens in Florida to be patient. I know you are under great stress, but help is on the way. This bill will provide it. This Congress will respond. And our President is doing all he can with the help of FEMA to make certain this misery and pain is short-lived.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTSCH).

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, there is an expression those of us in Florida occasionally use that there are two types of Americans, those that live in Florida and those that want to live in Florida. And if people live long enough, generally that might be where they end up.

I remember the first year I came to this Chamber, and I see many of my

colleagues who joined me that first year, Congressman DIAZ-BALART, Congressman HASTINGS, and others. Right after Hurricane Andrew was the last time our State experienced something of the magnitude of what we are experiencing today. My colleague from West Palm Beach just used the words that were the catch words after Hurricane Andrew: we will rebuild. In fact, we rebuilt and we rebuilt stronger and we rebuilt more significantly and a better community after the disaster of Hurricane Andrew. I am confident that we will do the same after Frances and Charley.

One of the advantages and disadvantages of literally living in paradise is that we actually are a location on the planet Earth where hurricanes find their way on a pretty regular basis. I am proud of the response of the people of Florida during this last disaster. I look forward to the continued effort and prayers and specific things of everyone in this country. The President is planning on coming back to Florida tomorrow, an unexpected visit sooner than after the Charley disaster. Unfortunately, at this point I do not expect to be able to join him because I hope to be on this floor passing this, as has been mentioned, hopefully unanimously, the \$2 billion.

In the 12 years since Andrew, we have had many supplementals of disasters that have faced this country. I think it is really part of the greatness and the really shining moments of this Congress when we acknowledge our debt and our relationship to every other citizen of the United States as we pass this supplemental tomorrow. I urge its adoption.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the very distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE).

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in Florida we have lived through Charley and Frances, and my area has been hard hit by both storms. All eight of my counties have sustained damage, both from wind and from storm surge. Myself, my own property has sustained some damage due to it. We have had the hopes of many Floridians dashed. Businesses have been harmed, agriculture, homes. Yet the spirit of the average citizen living in Florida is upbeat. They know that they will rebuild and that Florida will again be a great, healthy, and vibrant State. Neighbors have been helping neighbors, and that is the good news.

There are groups out there such as the Christian Contractors Association who have been helping people, seniors without a lot of funds repair their homes, take down trees, et cetera. Certainly the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and FEMA, along with a myriad of other agencies, are out there assisting people. Florida will survive Charley and Frances; and for all of the citizens out there, they need to be in touch with FEMA. That is what this emergency funding is all about.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN).

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I stand here before you in support of this bill. My district has been devastated by the record number of storms that have made landfall this hurricane season. Many people in my district are still without power. I want to thank Chairman YOUNG and the ranking member.

In 1992, FEMA was in shambles. Tonight I want to send a special thanks to President Clinton and to Director Witt whose leadership was instrumental in getting this organization working and back on track. And I want to thank all of the volunteers who worked together to bring relief to the victims of Bonnie, Charley, and now Hurricane Frances. Working side by side and neighborhood to neighborhood, they have helped all of us weather the storms. We are truly blessed that no further lives were taken during this latest storm.

We need a dedicated method of funding, not piecemeal dollars here and there, to adequately meet the needs of Florida and any other disaster that occurs in this country. I hope that we will have a clean bill, one that is not loaded or loved to death with amendments that do not pertain to the support and help of people who truly need the relief these funds promise. Thanks again for the support.

I also want to mention all of the organizations, FEMA, but under that the Army Corps have worked extremely hard and many community organizations and groups, the Red Cross. They are too numerous to name, so I want to make sure I revise and extend my remarks so I can thank all of these people that have come together, the fire departments, the mayors, local governments, the Federal agencies. Senator NELSON has been on the ground from day one. I want to thank everybody and all of the Florida delegation and all of the people that worked together to make things better for the people of Florida.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the very distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS), former chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

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

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, this funding is real money that will bring real relief to the people in Florida who have been devastated by Hurricanes Charley and Frances and who need help. As Governor Bush said to us, we have developed a case, perhaps, of "hurricane amnesia" in recent years in Florida. We certainly no longer have that. In my district alone, Charley severely damaged homes, four hospitals, cut a barrier island in two, left thousands without power, left thousands without employment, changing life forever for some people.

Just 3 weeks later, another massive hurricane slammed many of the same areas that had already been wrecked by Charley. Charlotte Harbor was hit twice hard. As I took stock of the devastation one day after Hurricane Charley hit, I found remarkable the terrible damage, the scale of destruction, and how people's lives were affected. But I was more impressed by the response, local, State and Federal, all working together; and it was hot, and it was miserable. It was amazing to see how well they were doing.

And they are still there. This ordeal has consumed the entire State of Florida, and Governor Bush has been steadfast in these times of crisis and we thank him. I commend and thank him especially for his strong leadership not once but twice; and I pray not for a third time, and hope Ivan will go elsewhere. Our Senators BOB GRAHAM and BILL NELSON also have done a fabulous job. They have met the challenges directly on the ground and, working as legislators, they have served our State and our country with great distinction.

Hurricanes are a part of life in Florida. It comes with the territory. But the past 4 weeks have been extraordinary. Not since 1950 have two powerful hurricanes hit Florida in the same year, let alone the same month. FEMA's relief funds need to be replenished now, and this funding will do just that. Appropriations Chairman BILL YOUNG, a great Floridian, has given us the leadership response that has been effective and instantaneous. Delegation Chairman CLAY SHAW has organized us to work together. We are grateful. I urge support for the bill.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the very distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to be part of this Florida delegation. We are working in unison and in a very strong bipartisan manner through the good times and the bad times. After Hurricane Andrew hit my district so strongly 12 years ago, we learned valuable lessons about emergency preparedness and responses to devastation such as that. After that, building codes were strengthened so that structures could withstand these winds that were so devastating. So we learned our lesson in Hurricane Andrew. But Floridians are resilient people. We have to keep learning new lessons as every hurricane season rolls around, and we are going to come back stronger than ever. We have faith in each other. We have faith as a people, as a community; and we know that no hurricane can knock Floridians off our feet for very long.

We thank individuals like Chairman YOUNG and Congressman SHAW, the dean of our delegation. With their leadership, they have made sure that this appropriations will be spent in a wise way and will be given to FEMA for this

disaster emergency. And we want to thank Governor Jeb Bush who has been coordinating this emergency response and President Bush who is going to be touring in the Miami National Hurricane Center. FEMA and the Red Cross volunteers, Salvation Army, faith-based organizations, all Floridians have come together in this moment of crisis.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. HARRIS).

(Ms. HARRIS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, during the last month, the worst circumstances have summoned the best of humanity. Having endured the unrelenting fury of two major hurricanes, Floridians from all walks of life have linked arms in their determined effort to rescue, recover, and rebuild. Moreover, the generous and compassionate soul of America has once again become manifest through the hearts and hands of the volunteers who have traveled hundreds, sometimes thousands, of miles to assist our local first responders.

Even before the storms hit, Governor Bush had marshaled the resources necessary to provide victims with rapid assistance. During the grueling aftermath, his reassuring presence throughout the State has served as an essential source of comfort and hope.

□ 1945

President Bush and FEMA have likewise delivered a quick and effective response from the Federal level. I particularly wish to commend U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman for her swift approval of disaster relief for our farmers and growers.

Finally, I wish to thank the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SHAW), our delegation Chair, for their leadership in requesting the President's \$2 billion for additional disaster relief funding and look forward to working with our entire State delegation to provide our constituents with the help they so desperately need and deserve.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. CRENSHAW), a member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time, and I thank the chairman for his leadership in this area.

This is money, Mr. Speaker, that will go to help people who are hurting right now, and, believe me, there are a lot of people in Florida who are hurting. Even in my area in northeast Florida where we did not suffer any direct brunt of the hurricane, thousands of people are without electricity. Their homes have been damaged. And while State, local, and Federal officials did a great job of doing everything they

could to prepare for this disaster, one can only do so much.

So I urge my colleagues to support this so that we can once again get the money to the people that are hurting now and come back and help those at a later time. I urge the adoption of this bill.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, would the Speaker be kind enough to inform me how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLINE). The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) has 4½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) has 11 minutes remaining.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I at this point have no further requests for time. There may be one other Member coming. So if the gentleman from Florida needs more time, I would be happy to yield him 2½ additional minutes.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's generosity, and that may be the case. We will deal with our speakers and then see where we stand. I thank him for yielding me the time.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and the ranking member for bringing forth this legislation so quickly to make certain that there is no interruption in the assistance that FEMA and the Small Business Administration are providing to the victims of the two hurricanes that have caused so much damage in Florida in recent weeks.

I have been very proud of, just like today, the response that we see from the Congress. Obviously the Speaker and the leadership have demonstrated tremendous solidarity with the people of Florida today. I have also been very pleased to see the promptness and the seriousness and the leadership of the President and the Governor, who, even before the first hurricane, Charley, hit Florida, there had been a major disaster area declared by the President pursuant to the request of the Governor.

So everything that can be done is being done. It is important for the people to know that we will continue to do everything that we can to alleviate their need in this very difficult moment. I thank again the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) for bringing this forward with such promptness.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART).

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to thank the chairman for the quickness of this measure, this important measure.

As we have heard before, when tough things happen, when the American people are suffering, is when the country

truly shines. And we are seeing another example. We are seeing unity. We are seeing how the ranking member has been so generous with his time and also working with the chairman to make sure that this is a reality. The people who deserve and need the help get it as soon as possible.

But I have to take this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to thank a number of people. President Bush, who from day one has been incredibly supportive and has led the relief effort. Governor Bush and his cabinet have done an incredible job. They have been on the field. The people from FEMA have been amazing. We run into them all over in Florida. I was with a group of them in Miami recently where the Governor was there as well. The Small Business Administration, the first responders, Mr. Speaker, police officers, firefighters, everybody who has come together to make sure that the suffering is minimized as much as possible, and I just want to thank everybody. And, of course, our guardian angel always, the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations from our great State of Florida, who is always there leading every single fight for the people of Florida.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the very distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA).

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I want to spend a second and also echo my appreciation to the gentleman from Florida (Chairman YOUNG), to both sides of the aisle, for bringing forward this legislation; to the leadership of President Bush and his administration, who have acted, in advance of both this latest storm and the previous storm we had; for the leadership, the fantastic assistance provided Governor Bush. He has just been on the job working day and night. And I would be remiss if I did not mention all of the local officials. I represent some six counties, and many of those people have been through two disasters now, and they have worked nonstop. So, again, my congratulations.

This money that we are sending from Washington is part of the great strength of our Nation, part of the strength of a Federal system, and it is the people's money, the taxpayers' money. And when we have a need, it is appropriate that we do provide assistance from the country to an area that is hard hit, whether it is Florida; Richmond, Virginia; or other parts of the Nation. So it is one of the great strengths of our Nation and our people.

Finally, I want to say that Florida is open for business. I chair the Aviation Subcommittee. All of our major airports are open. I want to thank Marion Blakey, the head of FAA, she worked nonstop, and Woody Woodward, our national airports administrator, to make certain that Florida, which depends on travel and aviation, is open for business.

But we are open for business. There are some pockets in the southwest and

some in the southeast, but our major attractions are open. All of our interstates and our roads, I have reports back as a member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, are open. And we want people to do us a favor by not canceling their plans to visit Florida. We will dust ourselves off. We will clean up a bit. But people can help Florida by not canceling their plans, but coming to Florida. We are open for business, and we will prevail.

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

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

First let me say that I am so proud to be a part of this Florida delegation that has come together so strongly as we do when matters affect our State. All of our Members on both sides of the aisle have just been dynamic in supporting each other in the problems that we might experience in our districts because of this one tropical storm and two hurricanes.

I want to especially thank the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) for working with me as we moved ahead with this bill to decide how we are going to do it, what the bill was going to look like, and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) was very supportive, and I have to say I just really appreciate the support that he gave us.

After Hurricane Charley, I went to south Florida with President Bush, where he announced that he would be asking for this supplemental to make sure that the cash flow continued, and I was there to assure him that we would move this bill as expeditiously as we could. The House convened at 2 o'clock today after the summer district work period, and at 2 o'clock I introduced this supplemental appropriations bill. And thanks to the support of the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DELAY), our majority leader, and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), our majority whip, everyone came together to help us move this legislation that is so important.

I want to thank the President of the United States for recognizing the needs of Florida. I want to thank Governor Bush, who has done really a dynamic job in helping to manage not only as we led up to the hurricanes, but during the hurricanes and following the hurricanes for recovery. He has just been an amazing manager, and he has worked with everyone at the State and local level just to do the very best we could to help the people of our State that were hurt so bad.

FEMA, we have talked about FEMA this afternoon, and FEMA has done an outstanding job. There are numerous other Federal agencies that have also been involved, and they have all just really turned to and helped our State as we recover from these disasters. The Florida National Guard, I talked to General Burnett early as Charley was approaching, and General Burnett had mobilized the Guard, ready to move in

to protect property, to protect lives, to do whatever was necessary; and they just deserve a tremendous vote of confidence and vote of gratitude from Florida.

All in all, as one of my colleagues from Florida said, this has been a great experience of coming together when people need help. As I said earlier in my remarks, all of Florida was affected one way or another, which was very unusual. We have an earthquake or a fire or a flood or whatever that might be, we respond quickly, and usually it is in a part of a State or a community, but in this case the entire State of Florida was affected. So as chairman of this committee and as the introducer of this bill, I appreciate the way that the House is moving to move this bill over to the Senate, which I believe will deem it passed tonight and get it to the President.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this emergency supplemental appropriations bill to provide \$2 billion to FEMA to help the citizens of Florida recover from Hurricanes Charley and Frances.

I am sensitive to the fact that these two hurricanes have had a devastating impact on the lives of several hundred thousand Central Floridians. My own mom, Lora Keller, completely lost her home in Hurricane Charley.

Despite these temporary heartaches, I am optimistic about Florida's future. Congress, especially those of us from Florida, will work very closely with President Bush and Governor Bush over the next few days to help rebuild Florida quickly, and even stronger than before.

This \$2 billion will be able to help Central Florida families with things like temporary lodging, food and water supplies, medical care and will allow roofs to be repaired.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5005.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5006, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio (during consideration of H.R. 5005) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-66) on the resolution (H. Res. 754) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5006) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and

for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KLINE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### SAUDI ARABIA AND TERRORISM: THE PAINFUL TRUTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, a tragedy occurred in Russia this past week. Thirty Chechen rebels took control of a schoolhouse on the first day of school, and they killed at least 338 people, half of them children who were going to school for their first day. According to the reports, 10 of those people who were terrorists were Arabs; and we believe that they were probably from Saudi Arabia.

One of the problems that we have had in the past is a lot of the terrorist activity has been emanating and originating from Saudi Arabia, ostensibly friends of the United States of America. Osama bin Laden is a Saudi. Fifteen of the 19 terrorists that flew the planes into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and the plane that went down in Pennsylvania were Saudi Arabians.

The Saudis have been funding for many, many years madrassas where Wahhabism is taught. Wahhabism is a radical fundamentalist Muslim religion that is being taught in the schools that teaches the children to hate Christians and Jews and teaches them to perpetrate violent acts.

Well, the Saudis today said that they are going to try to change the educational system over there so no radical fundamentalism can be taught that would lead to this kind of terrorist activity.

I would just like to say tonight, Mr. Speaker, that it is high time, high time, that the Saudis, whom we have been supporting with our dollars, buying our oil from them, for many, many years, it is high time that they stopped this terrorist activity which has been originating in their country.

The Saudi royal family has been giving money to radical organizations. They have been giving money to families of people whose children blew themselves up while killing people in Israel and the West Bank and in what is called Palestine. The Saudi Government has been giving money to al-Qaeda in the past.

Mr. Speaker, all I can say tonight is that the Saudis continue to tell us that they are our friends. They tell us they