

I also want to highlight a need that we have regarding review of the flood insurance program, to make improvements to that program, and I want to thank Chairman NEY for also holding hearings on that issue and allowing many of our constituents to participate. I want to compliment his Housing Subcommittee for examining this program at a hearing, especially on the 14th of April and a series of follow-ups.

Fourteen months ago, there was a significant flooding event that affected most of my district with quite severe flooding. Many homes and businesses suffered extensive damage. My staff and I worked hard to assist constituents with as many of their NFIP claims as we could. Unfortunately, still this many months later, many of my constituents have not had their claims settled. Their property is still uninhabitable, and they are still living with families or friends or in hotels.

This is not an isolated incident. It is not just Western Pennsylvania. It includes many of our colleagues who have testified and have brought their constituents to the hearing I mentioned from Virginia, Maryland, Florida and other States.

The problems fall into three main categories: One, improper coverage. They were ill-informed and purchased policies that were not appropriate. Two, they just had inaccurate information about the adjustments and low estimates, therefore, not recovering enough money. Three, they had difficulty contesting or challenging estimates that were incorrect.

I hope that additional assistance will be provided that is offered in the gentleman's bill to make sure claims can be settled and we can continue helping people, but I also hope that the committee will continue to address many of the problems that my constituents and many other victims around the country have faced, continue the review and revamping of this program, on which so many people depend and often at a very tragic time so that it will help them recover, not hinder them.

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

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, let me again thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) and the staff of the minority and the majority for their fine work on this and, of course, gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) who has shown great interest in these issues, again helping people in his area and across the United States.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud cosponsor of H.R. 4133, the National Flood Insurance Program Further Enhanced Borrowing Authority Act of 2005. This bill recognizes the need for increased borrowing authority under the National Flood Insurance Plan.

Last year, the 2004 hurricane season resulted in over 75,000 claims totaling close to \$2 billion dollars paid out in NFIP coverage. Today, FEMA estimates that more than

225,000 Katrina and Rita-related NFIP claims are likely to be filed, exceeding \$22 billion, and far surpassing claims paid in the entire history of this program.

Many of my constituents in Southwest Louisiana have been devastated by the loss of home and property since Hurricane Rita struck. They are anxious to rebuild, but local communities need Federal resources so they can begin to recover and rebuild their infrastructure and neighborhoods.

Now, FEMA is quickly running out of money. This legislation would allow for a temporary increase in FEMA's borrowing authority from \$3.5 billion to \$8.5 billion, through 2008.

These claims are not a new obligation, but rather the result of a legal promise our government made to these homeowners and business owners when Congress passed the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968.

Mr. Speaker, the flood victims in Southwest Louisiana, and throughout the Gulf region, need to rebuild their homes and their lives. Congress not only has a legal obligation, but a moral obligation to assist them in this effort. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4133.

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.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4133.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1430

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1065, UNITED STATES BOXING COMMISSION ACT

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 553 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 553

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1065) to establish the United States Boxing Commission to protect the general welfare of boxers and to ensure fairness in the sport of professional boxing. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General

debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

(Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 553 is a fair rule. It provides for consideration of H.R. 1065, the United States Boxing Commission Act. The rule allows for consideration of the amendments, all the amendments that were submitted to the Rules Committee. We are making in order all the amendments that were submitted to the Rules Committee.

It also provides 1 hour of general debate, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and 20