Rush

Marchant

Green, Gene

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the vote on H. Res. 1088 and H. Res. 1091, I would have voted "yea."

REQUIRING SECRETARY OF DE-FENSE TO SUBMIT ANNUAL RE-PORT ON CONGRESSIONAL INI-TIATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 6375.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6375, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 70, nays 330, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 535]

YEAS-70

Gilchrest Barrett (SC) Pence Gingrey Pitts Barrow Gohmert Green (WI) Bilbray Platts Blackburn Poe Bradley (NH) Price (GA) Hall Brown-Waite, Hayworth Ramstad Ginny Reichert Hensarling Campbell (CA) Rogers (MI) Hoekstra Hunter Rohrabacher Capito Inglis (SC) Castle Royce Ryan (WI) Chocola Jindal Coble Johnson (IL) Ryun (KS) Kennedy (MN) Cooper Schmidt King (IA) Sensenbrenner Davis, Tom Leach Linder Deal (GA) Sessions Shadegg Dent Duncan McHenry Shaw Feeney Fitzpatrick (PA) McMorris Shavs Rodgers Simmons Flake Miller (MI) Souder Fossella. Moran (KS) Stearns Tiberi Foxx Musgrave Franks (AZ) Neugebauer Westmoreland Garrett (NJ) Nussle Wolf

$\rm NAYS \!\!-\!\! 330$

Abercrombie Brown, Corrine DeFazio Ackerman Burgess DeGette Butterfield Delahunt Aderholt DeLauro Diaz-Balart, L. Akin Buyer Alexander Calvert Allen Camp (MI) Diaz-Balart, M. Andrews Cannon Dicks Dingell Baca Cantor Bachus Capps Doggett Baird Capuano Doolittle Baldwin Cardin Dovle Bartlett (MD) Cardoza Drake Barton (TX) Carnahan Dreier Edwards Bass Carson Bean Carter Ehlers Beauprez Case Emanuel Becerra Chabot Emerson Berman Chandler Engel English (PA) Berry Clay Bilirakis Cleaver Eshoo Bishop (GA) Clyburn Etheridge Cole (OK) Bishop (NY) Everett Bishop (UT) Farr Conaway Boehlert Costa Costello Ferguson Bonilla. Filner Bonner Cramer Forbes Bono Crenshaw Fortenberry Frank (MA) Boozman Crowley Boren Cuellar Frelinghuysen Boswell Culberson Gerlach Boucher Cummings Gonzalez Boustany Davis (AL) Goode Boyd Davis (CA) Goodlatte Brady (PA) Davis (FL) Gordon Brady (TX) Davis (IL) Granger Brown (OH) Davis (KY) Graves Green, Al Brown (SC) Davis (TN)

Ryan (OH) Grijalva Markey Marshall Gutierrez Sabo Gutknecht Matheson Salazar Matsui Harman Sánchez, Linda McCarthy Harric McCaul (TX) Sanchez Loretta Hart Hastings (FL) McCollum (MN) Sanders Hastings (WA) McCotter Saxton McDermott Haves Schakowsky McGovern Hefley Schiff Schwartz (PA) Herger McHugh McIntyre Herseth Schwarz (MI) McKeon Higgins Scott (GA) Hinchev McNulty Scott (VA) Meehan Hinojosa Sekula Gibbs Meek (FL) Serrano Holden Meeks (NY) Sherman Holt Melancon Sherwood Honda Shimkus Michaud Hooley Shuster Hostettler Millender-Simpson McDonald Sires Skelton Hulshof Miller (FL) Miller (NC) Hyde Slaughter Inslee Miller, George Smith (NJ) Israel Mollohan Smith (TX) Moore (KS) Issa Smith (WA) Istook Moore (WI) Snyder Jackson (IL) Moran (VA) Sodrel Jackson-Lee Murphy Solis (TX) Murtha Spratt Jenkins Myrick Stark Johnson (CT) Nadler Stupak Johnson, E. B. Napolitano Sullivan Neal (MA) Johnson, Sam Tanner Northup Jones (OH) Tauscher Kanjorski Nunes Taylor (MS) Oberstar Kaptur Terry Keller Obey Thomas Kelly Olver Thompson (CA) Kennedy (RI) Ortiz Thompson (MS) Kildee Osborne Thornberry Kilpatrick (MI) Owens Tiahrt Pallone Kind Tierney King (NY) Pascrell Towns Turner Kingston Pastor Kirk Payne Udall (CO) Pearce Kline Udall (NM) Knollenberg Pelosi Upton Peterson (MN) Kucinich Van Hollen Kuhl (NY) Peterson (PA) Velázquez LaHood Petri Visclosky Langevin Pickering Walden (OR) Lantos Pombo Walsh Larsen (WA) Pomeroy Wamp Larson (CT) Porter Price (NC) Wasserman Latham LaTourette Schultz Pryce (OH) Watt Putnam Lee Waxman Radanovich Levin Lewis (CA) Weiner Rahall Weldon (FL) Lewis (GA) Rangel Weldon (PA) Lewis (KY) Regula Rehberg Weller Lipinski LoBiondo Renzi Wexler Whitfield Lofgren, Zoe Reves Reynolds Wicker Lowey Wilson (NM) Lucas Rogers (AL) Lungren, Daniel Rogers (KY) Ros-Lehtinen Wilson (SC) E. Woolsey Lynch Ross Wu Rothman Mack Wvnn Maloney Roybal-Allard Young (AK) Manzullo Ruppersberger Young (FL)

NOT VOTING-32

Baker Fattah Norwood Berkley Ford Gallegly Otter Biggert Oxlev Blumenauer Gibbons Paul Blunt Gillmor Strickland Boehner Jefferson Sweeney Burton (IN) Jones (NC) Tancredo Convers Kolbe Taylor (NC) Cubin McCrery Waters Davis, Jo Ann McKinney Watson Evans Miller, Gary

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1602

Mr. MORAN of Kansas changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So (two-thirds of those voting having not responded in the affirmative) the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 535, requiring the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress an annual report and to provide notice to the public on congressional initiatives in funds authorized or made available to the Department of Defense, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 6136

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a co-sponsor of the bill, H.R. 6136.

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

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PRO-VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 102, FURTHER CON-TINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FIS-CAL YEAR 2007

Mr. PUTNAM, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109–727) on the resolution (H. Res. 1105) providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 102) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representa-

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

House of Representatives, Washington, DC, December 4, 2006.

Hon. Dennis Hastert,

Speaker, House of Representatives,

Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: On November 7, 2006, I received the great privilege of being elected Governor of the State of Nevada. Although Dean Heller was elected and will succeed me as the representative of the Second Congressional District of Nevada, under Nevada law I must formally resign my Congressional office prior to taking office as Governor. I have advised the current Governor of the State of Nevada of such resignation and hereby inform you of my formal resignation as the representative of the Second Congressional District of Nevada to be effective at the close of business on December 31, 2006.

It has been an honor and pleasure rep-

It has been an honor and pleasure representing the Great State of Nevada in Congress over the past 10 years, and I look forward to continuing that service as Governor.

Sincerely.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Jim gibbons,} \\ \textit{Member of Congress.} \end{array}$

DECEMBER 4, 2006.

Hon. Kenny Guinn, Governor, State of Nevada, Carson, City, NV.

DEAR GOVERNOR GUINN: On November 7, 2006, I received the great privilege of being

elected Governor of the State of Nevada. As you may be aware, under Nevada law I must formally resign my Congressional office prior to taking office as Governor. I have advised the Speaker of the House of such resignation and hereby inform you of my formal resignation as the representative of the 2nd Congressional District of Nevada to be effective at the close of business on December 31, 2006.

It has been an honor and pleasure representing the Great State of Nevada in Congress over the past 10 years, and I look forward to continuing that service as Governor. Sincerely.

JIM GIBBONS.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 102, FURTHER CON-TINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FIS-CAL YEAR 2007

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1105 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1105

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 102) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. Putnam) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentle-woman from New York (Mrs. SLAUGHTER), 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. PUTNAM asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks)

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues. I realize that as we wind down this session, Congress, Members are still attempting to move last-minute suspensions and items of importance for their district.

This resolution, Madam Speaker, is a rule that provides for consideration of House Joint Resolution 102, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2007. This rule provides for 1 hour of debate in the House, equally divided and controlled by the majority and minority chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of orders against consideration of the joint resolution and provides for one motion to recommit.

I want to commend both Chairman LEWIS and Ranking Member OBEY and the entire House Appropriations Com-

mittee for sticking to the timetable that they laid out at the beginning of this legislative session. In an impressive display of bipartisanship and great labor, the House passed 10 of the 11 appropriations bills prior to the July 4 district work period this year. Since July the Senate has returned to us the defense and homeland security appropriations bills, each of which has been signed by our President. Only the military quality of life appropriations bill has been passed by the Senate and is being conferenced. The remaining seven remain floundering in the Senate.

The House of Representatives, Chairman Lewis and Ranking Member Obey, and this body, have done their work. We must institute the continuing resolution in order to allow the government to continue functioning through February 15, 2007. This allows the new Congress ample time to organize and consider the outstanding appropriations bills. The rule allows consideration of this imperative continuing resolution funding measure.

While disappointed that we must resort to a CR, I am pleased that the appropriators have ensured that we have a clean bill without extraneous projects or funds and we have avoided the temptation often driven by the other body to package bills together in an omnibus.

Throughout the appropriations process, the committee has shown its commitment to the budget resolution and to fiscal accountability. The committee has funded programs and activities at the lowest of the House-passed level, the Senate-passed level, or the fiscal year 2006 rate. For agencies for which the Senate has not passed the bill, the funding rate is at the lower of the House-passed level or the fiscal 2006 current rate. For agencies for which neither the House nor the Senate have passed the bill, the funding rate is at the current 2006 number.

And in order to ensure quality health care for our veterans, we have included substantial additional transfer authority for Veterans Administration medical care. As the entire Federal Government is facing a plateaued budget, the CR includes a provision that prohibits the automatic implementation of the cost of living adjustment for Members of Congress also until February 16.

Again, I want to congratulate Chairman Lewis and Ranking Member Obey on their hard work. I urge Members to support the rule and the underlying continuing resolution so that we can finish the appropriations process and move down the road toward meeting the needs of this country.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the bill before us represents one of the last chances that the majority has to leave its mark on the 109th Congress, and yet again we are ending this session like we began it, rushing to pass a rule on a bill without having taken enough time to get either one right.

Along with the broken process used to pass this legislation, what is in this bill is a perfect representation of what is wrong with the way business has been done under this majority. It is a clear example of why we need a new direction in Washington, why we need a new philosophy of government to take root here in the people's House.

This continuing resolution will automatically fund government programs at their current levels through February 15 of next year. It is the third continuing resolution Congress has passed since the current fiscal year began on October 1. We are in the second week of December, and the majority has approved only two of the 11 bills that were needed this year. In fact, by the time this resolution expires in February, the Federal Government would have been on autopilot for more than one-third of the 2007 fiscal year. The nine spending bills that the 109th Congress will leave unfinished when it adjourns this week cover over \$460 billion in Federal spending, 460 billion. That is almost half a trillion that the leaders of the Congress have decided to send out the door without any policymaking or oversight.

Madam Speaker, the majority didn't do its job. As representatives, we are sent here to be good stewards of the taxpayer dollars that the Federal Government spends. It is one of our most important responsibilities. Voters do not expect us to abdicate that responsibility or any other responsibility, for that matter. What they expect is that we will take on the challenges confronting our Nation, challenges which have for years awaited a leadership with the vision and commitment needed to address them.

Madam Speaker, my fellow Democrats and I understand what the American people expect of us. Democrats believe that running this House correctly is a matter of pride. We believe it is a matter of having a fundamental respect for both the institution in which we serve and for the citizens who gave us the privilege to serve here.

And that is why when the 110th Congress opens next month, Democrats will actually face the unanswered challenges confronting us with a new promise and address them in a new way. The House will no longer avoid asking tough questions or fail to live up to its most basic duties. Democrats are going to show the American people a Congress with a new set of priorities and a new set of how best to do the people's business.

They are going to see a Congress committed to getting our deficits under control and passing critical bills like unfinished budgets before us on time. They will see a Congress focused on rewarding millions of hardworking