□ 1320

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

An amendment to H. Res. 276 offered by Mr. McGovern of Massachusetts:

At the end of the resolution, add the following new section:

SEC. 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this resolution, an amendment consisting of the text of H.R. 1979 (added as a new title at the end of the bill) shall be in order as though printed as amendment number 153 in the report of the Committee on Rules if offered by Representative Andrews of New Jersey or a designee. That amendment shall be debatable for 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent.

The information contained herein was provided by the Republican Minority on multiple occasions throughout the 110th and 111th Congresses.)

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308–311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R–Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

Because the vote today may look bad for the Republican majority they will say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: ''Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment.''

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: ''Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the amendment and on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question on the amendment and on the resolution.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RESIGNATION AS CHAPLAIN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 15, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: During the past eleven years, it has been my distinct honor to serve as Chaplain of the House of Representatives. It has been a true blessing for me to come to know you, Members of Congress through the years, and so many dedicated Staff personnel who have come to the Capital to serve this nation with their daily labor and sincerity of heart.

In my duties as Chaplain I have tried to be present to all and listen to their needs. Hopefully I have offered them guidance when sought, counsel when requested and strength in difficult times. I have learned compassion for them and their families. My greatest joy has been to lead people in the Chamber and across the nation in prayer.

It is now time for me to retire. I hope you will accept my resignation as Chaplain to be effective on Saturday April 30, 2011.

I trust you will convey to all the Members of the House my continued esteem for their efforts to shape laws and policies for the common good of the American people and for a better and peaceful world. I thank you and all for the kindness, patience and friendship extended to me. Certainly I do remember all of you in my daily prayer until the end of my days.

With gratitude to you and Almighty God,

REVEREND DANIEL P. COUGHLIN,
Chaplain.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation of Father Daniel P. Coughlin as Chaplain, effective April 30, 2011, is accepted.

There was no objection.

BEST WISHES TO REVEREND DANIEL COUGHLIN AND WELCOMING REVEREND PATRICK CONROY

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

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I want to join with all of my colleagues in extending best wishes to Father Coughlin for his very, very important service over the past 11 years to this institution and to welcome and congratulate the new Chaplain of the House of Representatives, Father Pat Conroy of Snohomish, Washington, a very distinguished alumnus of Claremont McKenna College in southern California, a man who has had spectacular service and even greater days ahead with the work that he is going to be doing with every Member of this institution.

ELECTING CHAPLAIN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 278

Resolved, That Father Patrick J. Conroy of the State of Oregon, be, and is hereby, chosen Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPEALING MANDATORY FUNDING FOR GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATHAM). Pursuant to House Resolution 269 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1216.

□ 1324

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1216) to amend the Public Health Service Act to convert funding for graduate medical education in qualified teaching health centers from direct appropriations to an authorization of appropriations, with Mr. CAMPBELL (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, May 24, 2011, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 7 printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) had been postponed.