Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.J. RES. 47

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove myself as a cosponsor of H.J. Res. 47.

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

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 68, AUTHORIZING LIMITED USE OF ARMED FORCES IN LIBYA; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2278, LIMITING USE OF FUNDS FOR ARMED FORCES IN LIBYA

Mr. WOODALL, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112–114) on the resolution (H. Res. 328) providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 68) authorizing the limited use of the United States Armed Forces in support of the NATO mission in Libya; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2278) to limit the use of funds appropriated to the Department of Defense for United States Armed Forces in support of North Atlantic Treaty Organization Operation Unified Protector with respect to Libya, unless otherwise specifically authorized by law, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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 include extraneous material on the bill (H.R. 2219) and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 320 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2219.

□ 1752

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 consideration of the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes, with Mr. WESTMORELAND in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

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

I first would like to thank the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS), the former chairman of the subcommittee, for the complete cooperation that we had with each other in preparing this very nonpartisan, nonpolitical Defense appropriations bill for 2012.

The base budget of this bill is $530 billion, which is $9 billion below the President's budget request. It was not easy to find the savings, but we were determined to find those savings without having any adverse effect on the warfighter or the readiness of our Nation.

The base bill is $530 billion. In addition to that, rather than having a supplemental for Iraq and Afghanistan, we included a section that is referred to as OCO, the Overseas Contingency Operation, which is $119 billion. The bill includes no earmarks for Members' districts. The bill contains no money for Libya because none was requested. The administration did not request money for Libya. We asked numerous times what their plans were, how long it might take, what the cost might be. We did not get an answer until just very recently. And they said, No, they did not request any funding, and they were basically going to make up the balances by a reprogramming. They would not ask for a supplemental, but they would reprogram some of the existing funds.

It's a good bill. I wish it had more money in it for certain areas. I would like to have seen a much larger pay raise. We provided the necessary funding for the 1.6 percent pay raise for the military, which was the authorized level and the requested level, but we just had to find that $9 billion. The staff had to work extremely hard to make sure that we did not have an adverse effect on any of our soldiers or our overall readiness.

The bill provides $32 billion for the Defense Health Program. We understand the needs of our soldiers that are wounded. There are, unfortunately, too many of them. We have provided what we think is adequate money to care for whatever their medical requirements, their medical needs are. And it includes considerable research into medical issues. The research is important because a lot of the injuries that came out of Iraq and we are seeing come out of Afghanistan are such that in previous wars, the troop would probably not have survived. But because of advancements in medical care, because of the research, because of advancements in medicines, because of the ability to remove the casualty from the battlefield quickly and get to a hospital quickly, we're saving the lives of many of our troops that would probably not have survived in previous wars.

We include funding for the construction of 10 Navy ships. We include money for 32 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft. We include $3.3 billion for 28 F–18 Super Hornets and 12 EA–18 Growlers, $2.8 billion for 116 H–60 Blackhawk helicopters, and $699 million for the Reaper UAV, which is an advancement of the Predator. I'm trying not to go into too much detail because it is a very lengthy bill.

The reductions that we made in order to achieve the $9 billion in savings, we took favorable contract pricing adjustments, contract and schedule delays resulting in fiscal year 2012 savings, unjustified cost increases, or funding requested ahead of the anticipated or historical underexecution of contracts, rescissions of unneeded prior year funds, and reductions that were authorized in the House-passed 2012 National Defense Authorization Act under the chairmanship of Chairman MCKEON. Specific reductions include $435 million in savings from those contract and production delays in the AMRAAM system. We will provide for the RECORD the details of all of the areas where we took the savings.

All in all, it is a good bill for the money that we had available. There are things that we would have added. We would have increased the military pay raise. We just didn't have the money. So we went to the authorized level. There's much more to be said that will be said as we read this bill for amendments, which will probably not happen now until we come back after next week's recess.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DICKS. I yield myself such time as I may utilize.

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

Mr. DICKS. It has, once again, been an honor to work with my friend from Florida, Chairman BILL YOUNG, to prepare the Defense appropriations bill for FY 2012. In the longstanding tradition of this committee, the bill has been prepared on a bipartisan basis, and I support the bill. I know that Chairman ROGERS will be glad to hear that.

I am happy to report that the bill provides the funds necessary to support our troops both at home and in the field. It also makes the investment in research and development and acquisition needed to fully equip our troops and maintain our Nation's technological edge.

□ 1800

Within the funds provided, and after careful review, the committee exercised its constitutional responsibility