they trying to muddy it up with Medicare? Medicare? Medicare is not an appropriation bill.

The reality is, before the session ends, we need to deal with Medicare, but we do not need to adopt their extreme agenda of $270 billion of cuts in Medicare, either to stabilize Medicare or to balance the budget. We do not have to increase the premiums on millions of poor elderly in the fashion that they are trying to do today, for either purpose of stabilizing Medicare or balancing the budget.

But we should not be arguing that today, on a continuing appropriation bill. Why do they try and put it on? Just to make sure the President will veto it. They can pretend they have done something. They know it is not going to happen. It is phony. But why are they even dealing with Medicare? Because they have not been able to deal with the budget, 1½ months after the fiscal year ended.

You should have been doing that, what you are doing now, in July, but you were off chasing butterflies or something, not doing your work, not getting it organized, so now you come with this dumb bill, crazy provisions in it, trying to stick it to the seniors in this country. We should vote no.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, although I do not plan to use much of it.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are obviously unhappy with the 537 Federal elected officials, the 435 of us in this House, 100 Members in the U.S. Senate, and the two people elected in the executive branch. They are unhappy as they watch this bickering that is going on over this battle that we have.

Today is a Federal holiday. Tomorrow is actually Veterans Day, but we are marking it today. The gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] and many of our colleagues hope very much to be able to participate in events. That is one of the reasons we have tried to limit this debate, which is simply on the rule, so we can allow Members to have a chance to vote for or against this continuing resolution.

But as we proceed with this, it seems to me that it is very important to recognize what it is that got us to this point. Between 1977 and 1987, there were 63 continuing resolutions. We hear this criticism of this process but we are, right now, struggling to move toward a balanced budget. While people are unhappy with the bickering that is going on today, I am convinced that they are much more unhappy with the prospect of perpetuating that business as usual. That business as usual has been a pattern which has led to doing nothing more than passing onto the shoulders of future generations the responsibility of continuing profligate spending.

So what is is that we are saying? We are saying that as we move ahead with this continuing resolution, we should put into place the kinds of things that the American people want, that will reduce the size and scope of government, recognize that we must save the Medicare system, rather than allowing it to go bankrupt, as the President's Commission on Medicare said in their April 3 study that came out.

So it seems to me we have a responsibility to do the right thing. Everyone is unhappy with the fact that we are bickering. I am unhappy with the fact that we are here today. The fact of the matter is that we are doing the people's business. We want to do that right now by passing out this rule, so we can proceed with the debate on the continuing resolution. Then let us get the two people who were elected by all the American people at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue to sit down and come to an agreement, so that we can ensure that by the year 2002 we are able to pass on to the children of the gentleman from California [Mr. BILBRAY], who will at that point be graduating from high school, a balanced budget.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursaunt to clause 5, rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed until after debate on House Resolution 262.

□ 1100

REQUEST TO DISCHARGE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 118, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be discharged from further consideration of House Joint Resolution 118, a clean CR, and ask its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, and recorded on page 534 of the House Rules Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the gentleman's request until it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leadership.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, in the interest of seeing to it that the Government does not come to a halt, when is the next point at which I might offer that motion to have a simple, clean, 1-month CR?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not be able to entertain such request until such time as it is cleared.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTION TO DISPOSE OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 2586, TEMPORARY INCREASE IN THE STATUTORY DEBT LIMIT

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 262 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 262

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2586) to provide for a temporary increase in the public debt limit, and for other purposes, with any Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House a motion offered by the majority leader or his designe to dispose of all Senate amendments. Any Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled between the majority leader and minority leader or their designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except any such demand made by the majority leader or his designee.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. PRYCE] is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HALL], 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. Speaker, House Resolution 262 is a very simple, but very necessary, resolution providing for the further consideration of H.R. 2586, legislation which temporarily increases the statutory limit on the public debt.

Specifically, the resolution provides for the consideration in the House, without any intervening point of order, of a motion if offered by the majority leader or his designee to dispose of any Senate amendments to H.R. 2586, the debt ceiling extension bill.

The rule also provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled between the majority leader and the minority leader, or their designees.

The rule further provides that the previous question is ordered to final adoption without intervening motion or a demand for a division of the question unless such a demand is made by the majority leader or his designee.

Mr. Speaker, those of us on this side of the aisle cannot overstate the importance of passing this legislation and ensuring the continued confidence in

our Government's ability to meet its most fundamental financial obligations.

No one likes the idea of extending or increasing the limit on public debt. It means simply that the Federal Government must be given new authority to borrow additional money in order to meet its obligations.

For some on our side, that is a tough proposition to swallow, especially since we have seen the buying power of millions of American workers' paychecks decline in the past as Washington piled up higher and higher debt.

That is why it is so important to the future of this Nation and its economy that we get our fiscal house in order, and take the steps needed today to reverse the trend of spiralling Federal debt.

H.R. 2586, as it returns to the House from the other body, preserves much of what was included in the House-passed version, in addition to the debt limit increase. There is the provision authored by Chairman SOLOMON which commits Congress and the President to enacting legislation this year to achieve a balanced budget no later than the year 2002, before the debt limit is increased any further. This is the crux of the whole debate.

We owe it to our children and grandchildren to be as forthright as possible on such an important goal.

There is also coverage of certain anticancer oral drug treatments for both prostate and breast cancer. There is badly needed habeas corpus reform taken from the Senate-passed antiterrorism bill which changes the seemingly endless appeals system that prevents swift and certain justice.

And, finally, there is long-overdue language aimed at bringing commonsense relief to entrepreneurs, businesses, and consumers all across America who are unfairly saddled with costly, often duplicative Federal regulations.

One key item which was removed by the Senate last night is legislation to abolish the Department of Commerce. This would be a major step toward downsizing and streamlining the Federal Government, and I am hopeful that the House can revisit this critical issue again soon.

The bill soon to be before us is not just about temporarily increasing the debt limit. And it is not about political brinkmanship, as so many of our critics have written. What it is about is making a serious, meaningful downpayment on our commitment to balancing the budget in 7 years.

With this legislation, and the changes made to it by the other body, we have the opportunity to cut spending, to shrink the size and reach of the Federal bureaucracy, and to give the American people new hope in our ability to do more with less.

This is an opportunity we simply cannot afford to miss, Mr. Speaker, and we invite the President and our friends in the minority to join us in this historic effort. Unfortunately, as today's Washington Post describes, the President seems focused instead on preparing for a Governmentwide shutdown.

I believe the dedicated Federal workers, who keep the Government running day-in and day-out, deserve much better than that. Instead of preparing for a shutdown, we are doing our best to put this country on a sound financial footing—something that will benefit all Federal workers, whether they live and work in the Washington area, or Columbus, OH, or anywhere else.

Mr. Speaker, we do not want to see the lives of Federal workers and their families disrupted by a completely unnecessary shut down of the Federal Government.

Under the terms of this simple and fair rule, which was adopted unanimously by the Rules Committee last evening, there will be ample time to debate the merits of any motion if offered by the majority leader to dispose of Senate amendments to H.R. 2586.

As our colleagues know, time is getting short, and we must act responsibly and expeditiously to pass both the continuing resolution and the debt ceiling extension.

Anything less would clearly show that we have abandoned our promise to the hard-working taxpayers of this country to govern sensibly and with a firm commitment to fiscal responsibility.

I urge my colleagues to adopt this rule and to get on with the business the people sent us here to conduct.

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HALL of Ohio asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 262 is a rule which will allow consideration of H.R. 2586 and Senate amendments to increase temporarily the Federal debt ceiling. As my colleague, the gentlewoman from Ohio [Ms. PRYCE], described, this rule provides 1 hour of general debate, equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees.

The level of the debt ceiling is the amount of money that the Federal Government can borrow to pay its debts. As Federal borrowing increases, the debt ceiling must be raised. Failure to raise the debt ceiling would prevent the Federal Government from paying its bills.

Today is Veterans Day. Traditionally, it is a day that House Members return to their districts to honor America's veterans. Instead, we are here in the House Chamber taking up a bill that is necessary to ensure the financial soundness of the U.S. Treasury.

The immediate problem we face is the need to raise the debt ceiling. This requires a simple solution. Instead, we have a huge bill full of complex and controversial sweeteners added at the last minute to win enough votes for passage.

If we had done the right thing and passed a clean bill—without extra sweeteners, the bill would probably be signed into law by now—and we could be home with our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, the bill we are taking up is basically the same bill we took up yesterday, except the Commerce Department provision was dropped. This is the wrong way to do it, and this is a bad bill.

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

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY], former chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, for the second time today, this House is considering a bill that should be high above politics.

And, once again today, the Republican House will pass a bill that the President will be forced to veto.

Mr. Speaker, this is no way to run the Congress.

If the majority doesn't do its job responsibly, if the majority doesn't put politics aside, a lot of Americans are going to suffer.

People with pension plans will be hurt, people with adjustable rate mortgages will be hurt, people with payroll deduction plans will be hurt, people who served in the military will not get their benefits.

This will add insult to injury. Today is Veterans Day, the day we are supposed to honor our country's soldiers, not use them as pawns in a political game.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of whether the United States defaults on its loans should be high above politics.

Let's act responsibly, defeat this rule and let's pass a clean debt-limit extension.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS], the distinguished ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, it is sad that we must be here today. This is business that should have been completed in June or July of this year.

The reason why it has not been completed is because of totally inept leadership on the part of the Speaker of this body.

As all of us know, a year ago there was an election. We Democrats lost the election. We went into minority status around here and the Republicans took control. They have sufficient votes to run this House and to do anything they want to. We are in this position today because the Republicans simply cannot get their own act together to do the right thing, to pass the appropriations bills.

Mr. Speaker, they have not been passed. There are still nine of them floating around out in space somewhere and they are being held up by the Republicans, not by the Democrats.

This debt-ceiling legislation should have been handled in July. Every Republican in this House has voted at least three times to raise the debt limit before to a total of $5.5 trillion. They have already voted on that three times. Republican members of the Committee on Ways and Means have voted on it four times; never raised a question about raising the debt ceiling.

But here at the last minute, because they have got some bells and whistles they want to attach that they cannot get past their own Members, they are trying to stick them on nongermane legislation.

Mr. Speaker, we Democrats are not holding up this House. We are not forcing this crisis. The President is not forcing this crisis. The appropriations bills simply have not gotten to him. He has not had a chance to exercise his authority that is required by the Constitution over these bills.

Congress has not had a chance to vote on a debt ceiling that the Republicans will turn loose. They keep changing the dates, changing the amounts, and all of those things.

Mr. Speaker, I say to the American public, ''Do not blame us, American folks. Blame the Republicans. You put them in charge, and they are simply not doing their duty.''

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS], my good friend who is just walking off the floor, the gentleman is a Member that I have great admiration and respect for, but I really was taken aback by the gentleman's statement a few minutes ago when we almost had to rise and have his words taken down.

□ 1115

I would not do that because of the respect that I have for him. But one cannot stand up here and talk about the inept leadership of the Speaker. That goes against the rules of the House.

Having said that, I just have great admiration and respect for another Member of this House, and that is NEWT GINGRICH. The gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH] has shown unbelievable leadership in getting us to this point that we are in now. It is such a serious problem that we have this sea of red ink that is literally ruining this country. It has turned us into a debtor nation. We cannot continue down this path.

That is why we are doing everything that we can to leverage legislation that we have been gagged from doing over the last 40 years. Things like product liability reform, so badly needed to create jobs in this country so that business and industry could be successful, regulatory reform. I come from the State of New York where we are the highest taxed State in the Nation. We are the most overregulated State in the Nation. Our businesses cannot survive there. They are leaving with thousands of manufacturing jobs, not only leaving the State but leaving the country.

What do we have in this bill? We have regulatory reform. Beyond that, we have my amendment, which simply states, I am going to read it to Members. I would like my colleagues to tell me what is wrong with this. It says, with the enactment of this act, the President of the United States and this Congress—my colleagues, that is you and I—commit themselves to enacting legislation in calendar year 1995 to achieve a balanced budget not later than the fiscal year 2002. That is 7 years down the road.

It goes on to say, it is further the sense of Congress that the Congress will not pass an increase in the permanent statutory limit on the public debt until such time that the President has signed into law the balanced budget legislation referred to in this section.

Now, we finally have gotten President Clinton to come around from saying we could not balance the budget, to say that we could do it in 10 years. Then we finally got him to say, well, maybe we could do it in 8 or 9; and now he is saying maybe we could do it in 7 years. That is all we are saying in this piece of legislation.

You know, another thing in here, it surprised me, my good friend, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GIBBONS], because what we do is we say that the President or the administration or anybody else cannot dip into Social Security trust funds or Federal Government retirement funds. I do not know about you, but when I hold town meetings, that is the thing they complain about the most: You people are fiscally irresponsible. Leave our money alone. That is what we do in this continuing resolution.

Then we have a fourth item which has to do with breast cancer and prostate cancer. Everybody in this room supports that legislation, so what is wrong with tacking it on here?

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SOLOMON. I yield to the gentleman from Hawaii.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman did ask a question; will anybody come down and respond? The reason that I am here is, the gentleman said the point of what he is proposing right now is that we not touch the Social Security trust fund.

Why would the gentleman put that in at this stage when the budget that has been proposed for balancing in the year 2002 by the majority does precisely that to the tune of $636 billion.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is absolutely incorrect. In other words, we have a continuing resolution. It is a clean resolution that the President could sign and keep the Government functioning except for these items I have just read off. One of them was, we cannot dip into the Social Security trust fund because it is not our money to dip into. It is my money. It is the gentleman's money. I do not want him dipping into my funds.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will continue to yield, I understand. I am all for it. But how is it possible then for him to make that proposal at this juncture when the budget that has been put forward by the majority does precisely that? It dips into the Social Security trust fund, to the ostensible surplus, to the tune of—I will tell the gentleman what the numbers are. They start in 1996 with $63 billion. It is in the gentleman's budget document, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON].

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, let me tell the gentleman this. In the reconciliation bill that has come before this body, it balances the budget. It does not touch trust funds at all, and we are not going to.

What I am asking the gentleman is, let us pass this clean CR, clean continuing resolution that has these couple of items in there which none of us object to. So what is the objection? Let us pass it. Let us go home. Let us make our veterans speeches and meet with our veterans and come back here Monday.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding time to me and conclude by saying that I think the reason that I think we find great difficulty in carrying out what the gentleman requests of us is that it runs exactly contradictory to what the reconciliation budget will present to us.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the legislation that is before us right now is legislation that we can continue the Government functioning over the next 10 days or until December 13. That is what we need. We know that the debt limit is not going to run out in between now and the time that this would be signed into law. Let us go ahead and do it. Let us drop the rhetoric, and let us get the job done.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SKAGGS].

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, we have heard many comments that this is Veterans Day. As a veteran, I cherish the opportunity to recognize the enormous contributions that the men and women in uniform have made to this country. We honor them and the free Nation they fought for, the freedoms they defended, including the core freedom of speech and association.

Now, what does one of the bills pending before the House right now do? It includes an absolutely crazy provision that will regulate the speech of veterans organizations.

Suddenly, it dawns on me why things have been dragged out, in fact, to make

sure that Members cannot get home on Veterans Day. Maybe it was deliberate, the mismanagement of the process that has kept us here as long as it has.

To my colleagues, I hope you will be able to go home and let your veterans organizations know what we have really done to them. I hope that you will be proud to let them know that we are restricting the ability of the Vietnam Veterans of America to speak out about substance abuse and treatment, that we are trying to gag the Disabled American Veterans as they push the Veterans Administration to deal with disability issues. Is that how we want to honor veterans on their day?

What a disservice, what a dishonor, not just to our veterans but to the Constitution they fought for.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, just so we are clear about this, the provision to which the gentleman just spoke is not a part of debt ceiling increase. That was on the CR which was the last rule we just voted upon, just so everybody knows to keep those two straight.

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. EDWARDS].

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I have heard several of our Republican colleagues saying that we should keep our speeches short today so we can get home and give our speeches tomorrow to our veterans.

As the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Hospitals and Health Care, I have a better idea. Let us cancel our speeches and stay here in Washington as we should to keep Government from being shut down. We are on the brink of shutting down VA regional offices all over America that provide critical services to the men and women who served our country in uniform. We do them no honor by speaking to them tomorrow, by going on vacation in our districts this weekend while Government is on the brink of shutting down veterans health care services, many crucial services in our VA hospitals, and shutting down our VA regional offices.

That is irresponsible. What the Republican leadership is doing by letting us go on vacation this weekend is basically saying that to the veterans who are out there at sea at risk of drowning, the homeless, the sick, the ill, we are saying, we are going to take a vacation this weekend. We are going to go back home to our districts and speak to veterans. And by the way, do not drown over the weekend. We are going to come back on Monday and we might throw you a liferaft. We might think about your interests at that time.

That is irresponsible. I would like some Member of the Republican leadership to say why we are honoring veterans by risking the shutdown of their services by leaving this weekend. We know this bill is going to be vetoed. If we truly care about veterans, let us stay here and keep working on a bipartisan basis to keep that health care service that our veterans have fought for and the service that they deserve open.

It is wrong. It is irresponsible. It is hypocritical to our American veterans to say that we are going to go home and give our speeches this weekend when we are risking the life preserver they desperately need.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I do not know about the gentleman, but when I go home I do not consider it being on vacation. I work in my district. I talk to my constituents. I visit with my veterans. That is not vacationing. That is an important part of this job. Every Member should consider it so.

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DOGGETT].

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, even at this moment when we stand on the brink of fiscal disaster, on the brink of closing down services upon which millions of Americans depend, our Republican friends cannot get themselves out of the clutches of special interest lobbies. On this issue of debt limit, they came to the floor yesterday afternoon and added something totally irrelevant, over 200 pages endorsed by a series of special interest lobbies, written in the dead of night, never presented for a hearing, never heard or discussed on this floor with what they call regulatory reform.

What it means to those veterans that are watching is that we are going to engage in unilateral disarmament. Yes, the power to protect the people of the United States from unsafe products, to protect them from foul water and foul air, we are going to disarm unless the lobby approves. In fact, no new regulations can go into effect unless some peer review committee that includes lobbyists says it is OK. You let the tobacco companies decide how to regulate tobacco. That is the theory of this that we are debating right now. That is included here along with the debt limit though it has absolutely nothing to do with it.

The last measure we considered included lobby control. What kind of lobby does it control? The Texas Council on Family Violence will be running a hotline to help battered women all over this country. Because they take Federal dollars to administer that hotline, they cannot come to Washington and speak out about the wrongs in this Republican budget. Do they control the polluters and the loophole lawyers? No.

They want to muzzle the National Council on Senior Citizens because it had the courage to speak out against the cuts on Medicare that are in this budget. And the latest chapter, it is in today's Wall Street Journal with the title ''Gingrich Backer Had Unusual Access'' as a volunteer in the Speaker's office, that the Speaker contracted out his own office to a special interest lobbyist.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. CHAPMAN].

Mr. CHAPMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

I would say to all of my colleagues that in the last Congress I introduced major regulatory reform legislation; we call it the Sunset Reform Act. It was reintroduced in this Congress. This major regulatory reform relief provision has now passed through the subcommittee with a very strong bipartisan support. It is out of the full committee, and it is pending on the calendar of this House of Representatives.

In the contract on America, there is also regulatory reform and there was habeas corpus reform. What we find and what I want to tell my colleagues is this Member of Congress who has been a leader on these issues knew nothing about this late-night stealth attack on the potential strength of the Treasury of the United States when the Republican Party puts into a debt ceiling extension major regulatory reform that has not been conferenced by the House and Senate, that does the damage the previous gentleman spoke to, that was a part of the contract on America that had not passed the House and the Senate. And they did the same with habeas corpus reform, one of their contract provisions which has gone nowhere. They are using the potential fiscal health of the entire Nation as their medium to accomplish these goals.

□ 1130

This is wrong, and Americans know it. We should not pass this rule, we should not pass this legislation, and of course the President will veto this bill, as he should. We ought not to be a part of this. We ought to be doing what is right. We ought to be working on Veterans Day to make sure that our veterans, and our seniors, and our children, and the weakest among us have an opportunity to participate in this great society.

This Republican budget is a disaster, this rule is a disaster, this entire process is wrong, and we should reject it.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. WATERS].

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker and Members, I never thought I would see the day that Republicans would endanger the well-being of veterans. We have come to a point in time where veterans stand to be denied the ability to have their claims processed because of what we are going through here today.

Mr. Speaker, I serve on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and I watched many Members from the other side of the aisle wave the flag, and talk about being in the parades, and how much they love veterans. Well, we need to be here today telling the real story; on this side of the aisle I think we are doing that.

Mr. Speaker, what we are saying today is, ''Republicans, who are willing to threaten the well-being of veterans with this brinksmanship, we need to stop this foolishness. We need not go home. We need not go home, and march in those parades, and tell the veterans how much we love them when, in fact, we are hurting them in this process.'' But the Republicans budget would keep them at spending levels for 1995, Mr. Speaker, which means that over 125,000 veterans would be denied health care services.

This charade needs to stop. Let us remain here until we can get it right. Let us take the machoism out of this fight. Let us do what is necessary to fund the services and programs of this Nation. Let us not use veterans and the people of this country as tools in this bickering. It is time for us to do the right thing.

Veterans, get on the telephone. Call into this House. Let the Republicans know that they need to stop this. If they want to honor our veterans on Veterans Day, tell them to stop the brinksmanship. Do not put something on the President's desk that they know he is going to veto and cause our veterans to be at risk.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN].

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, allow me to explain what this is all about.

The debt ceiling limit of the United States is the authority of this Federal Government to borrow money. Because the United States has a national debt, our Treasury must issue bonds and other securities to secure that debt on a regular basis. Congress must give them authority to do so.

None of us like the fact that our Nation is in debt, but we are not about to lose our credit rating as a nation. So we reluctantly and sometimes painfully vote for an extension of this so-called debt ceiling limit so that the full faith and credit of the United States of America is not encumbered.

This vote today on the debt ceiling limit, which is the subject of this rule, is going to create a fiscal crisis in this country because the Republicans have insisted that we will not just vote on this issue. They want to throw in a lot of extraneous issues. They want to throw in regulatory reform.

Mr. Speaker, that sounds so simple. It turns out to be a 200-page amendment drawn up by special interest groups, by polluters, corporate polluters, who want to make sure that they have their say in the process of establishing environmental regulations, establishing the standards by which we regulate the water, the streams, the air of this country. What in the world does this have to do with the debt ceiling? Nothing. It is a political gimmick. It is trying to put pressure on the President to sign a bill he does not accept.

Mr. Speaker, the President will veto this bill, and it is a sad commentary that we have reached this point. Some Republicans have gone so far as to say, ''Don't worry about the debt ceiling limit. We are just going to postpone paying American taxpayers their income tax refunds next year; we think they'll understand.'' Wait a minute. Have my colleagues spoken to those families and those taxpayers? They are counting on those checks.

They have also suggested, ''Don't put the payroll taxes in the Social Security trust fund for a while. That will carry us on.'' That shows us the limits they are prepared to go to force this shutdown strategy of the Federal Government.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, we continue to reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE].

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguish gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HALL] for yielding this time to me, and I want to acknowledge my distinguished friend from New York who previously spoke to this issue and mentioned the great service that he gave to this country, and I certainly acknowledge it. Being my age and being a female, I did not have the honor, but I can say that I have come from a military family that appreciated the desire and the need to serve their country and was honored for doing so.

I can come to my colleagues this morning, however, and speak to them as a parent raising a 10-year-old and a 15-year-old, and I can assure my colleagues that, when I hear from my constituents in Houston, they simply ask to pass a straightforward continuing resolution, streamlined to deal with the issues at head, because those of us who are parents and working every day, we know the bottom line: To get the job done. Mr. Speaker, this resolution proposed by the Republicans, my friends, does not get the job done.

Mr. Speaker, what it says to the Catholic charities that many of us benefit from throughout this Nation is that they cannot come to express their views about services to the elderly because they are lobbyists and they take Federal money. It denies them the right to free speech. That is what is in this continuing resolution, which is simply to keep the doors open.

In addition, then it says to Federal employees, like those who—some gave their life in Oklahoma City, ''We don't care about you and the fact that the Social Security Administration may have to deny new recipients their eligibility checks, individuals who have come upon hard times, disabled senior citizens and otherwise.'' They will not be able to be taken care of in the manner that they have taken care of this Nation by paying their taxes.

Mr. Speaker, that is what this continuing resolution debate is all about, and then we ask about the Commerce Department. Someone seems to want to raise that up as the whipping boy, but do my colleagues know that the Constitution included the fact that this Government is responsible for commerce? Do my colleagues know that commerce creates jobs and that countries like Germany and Japan are in fact uplifting and enhancing their opportunities to compete? We need jobs in this Nation. Get a downsized Commerce Department; I do not want a big bloated Department, but it can be done. This eliminates the opportunity to create jobs: $3 billion in contracts in the last 6 months created by the Commerce Department.

Then we now come to our veterans, and I have a special place in my heart for them, but come Monday at midnight we will have veterans without health services, we will have veterans who we pretend to honor without health services, and what it means is we will have veterans who will be listening to a lot of lip service. They do not want lip service, my colleagues. They want health care service; that is what we want in this country.

And then the budget debate. I believe in bringing down the deficit. I voted for a balanced budget amendment. I have done it in my own former life as a city council member, but I can tell my colleagues one thing. We are being misrepresented, too, because this deficit and this balance that we have completes well worldwide with other countries who have a far greater debt. We can do it with reason and not cut education, and we cannot cut health care and Medicare premiums that increase. We can do this by streamlining the continuing resolution. Let us vote down this rule.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. MILLER].

(Mr. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker and Members, the suggestion is being made by the Republicans that, if we do not pass the continuing resolution to fund the Government and we do not pass the debt limit to increase the debt of this Government so that we can make good the credit of the United States and the payment on that debt, that if we do not do it their way, it cannot be done. Mr. Speaker, it is simply not true. For a clean debt limit, for a clean CR, I am sure on this side of the aisle we can find 150–175 votes, and I am sure that if the Republicans scour their entire caucus, they could find 25, 30, 40 votes that are willing to see that this Government continue, that we continue to govern, and then we can continue on with the debate over Medicare, and the future of children in this country, and the future of education,

but what we do not have to put at risk, what we do not have to put as risk, is the vital services of this Government, whether it is to veterans, or whether it is to the elderly, or whether it is to the schools of this Nation, or the transportation of this Nation. And even more importantly than all that, perhaps, is the credit of this Nation, that if we guess wrong and the markets react adversely, it will cost the homeowners and people who have debt in this Nation, who have mortgages. We ought not to put that at risk.

Mr. Speaker, we can pass a clean debt limit, we can pass a clean CR, in a matter of minutes, in a matter of minutes. But the Republicans have chosen to have an ideological fight. They have the fight going on now. That is why we do not see them on the floor of the House, because they are having that fight in their conference. But they also chose to have that fight with the people of the United States and the President of the United States, and to force that fight they want to shut down the Government. It is really unacceptable. It is really the sort of a politics that should not exist any longer because with the world financial markets, and our world creditworthiness, and our ability to loan money and to recapture money around the world, we should not be playing with the credit rating of the United States of America.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of our time.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO].

(Mr. FAZIO of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, it may have struck a number of those observing this proceeding that there is not much response coming from the other side of the aisle. They are passing time and time again to allow Democrats to dominate the debate. That is because the Republican Members have been off the floor, meeting together, wrangling over the Istook amendment which has been so clearly described here this morning.

But what is really at stake is whether or not we are going to keep faith with the American people, with Federal employees, with all the services that people depend on and that this Government renders them.

We clearly have an inept Republican leadership. There is no way around it. It is rather hard, but I have to say it here. It is the 10th of November. The fiscal year began October 1. Two of 13 appropriation bills have been passed, no budget reconciliation. The entitlement program has been passed. Had we passed those appropriation bills, had we passed that budget reconciliation package, we would not be here in this crisis atmosphere. The debt limit would have been automatically extended. The Government would be in position to serve all the people who pay the taxes to support it. But the fact is that that ineptness has made it impossible for us to operate any other way but on a crisis basis.

Now Democrats have made it clear we are prepared to do whatever it takes to keep the American people from suffering as a result of our disagreements, and to allow Government to continue to function and our currency to continue to not be in default.

□ 1145

We have offered and will offer again today resolutions, clean resolutions, that allow the American people to continue to observe this debate but not have to make sacrifices that they ought not to have to make because they did not bring about this crisis.

Mr. Speaker, why are we still here? Because the Republican Members simply cannot even agree among themselves as to what we ought to be doing here on a day we ought to be home honoring our veterans. We have some Members who think we must pass pure Istook, the amendment which really deprives so many nonprofit entities across this country of their voice here in Washington. Others would like to accommodate the Senate, which attempted to water it down and make it more palatable, even though, in my view, fatally flawed, by now covering State and local government wants to address issues here in Washington.

That has made it impossible for Republicans even to tell us this morning whether they have the votes to pass this resolution on to the President, where he threatens to veto it, or were they unable to do that, to go to conference, which would mean they would not even be able to give the President the opportunity to exercise his responsible position before the clock runs and the government shuts down.

That is what we are dealing with, division in the ranks that makes it impossible for Democrats, even in their most cooperative moments, to be helpful. But we will continue to try, and perhaps before this day is over, Republicans will come to their senses and accommodate what is reality,.

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

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HALL of Ohio. I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. HEFNER. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to have a little colloquy with the gentleman from California.

I would ask the gentleman, is there anything in the continuing resolution and the extension of the debt limit that could not be handled regularly in legislation, either by suspension of the rules or in a regular bill? Is there anything in either one of these bills that could not be handled in the regular process in this bill?

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HEFNER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Absolutely not. No. There is no reason for us to impede the American people, to keep this crisis atmosphere in Washington. We can deal with that in the due course of events.

Mr. HEFNER. So, with the Republicans controlling both bodies, they could bring it up at their discretion?

Mr. FAZIO of California. That is absolutely right.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. WISE].

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, what we have here today is a failure of leadership. That is why the thousands of Federal employees across the country, and certainly in my State, are going to face impending furloughs on Tuesday. That is why every homeowner with an adjustable rate mortgage faces interest rate increases if the debt ceiling is not extended and default occurs. Failure of leadership.

This House is under Republican leadership now. Republican leadership used to complain about when appropriation bills were not done in a timely fashion. It takes 13 bills to run this Government. They failed to pass 11 of them and enact them into law. They failed to bring these matters to the floor for timely debate.

The result is that what we have are two measures, debt ceiling extension and a continuing resolution that keeps the Federal Government going on a temporary basis. Both of them should be noncontroversial, both of them should be clean by themselves. Instead, what they have done is to tie such strings to each one of them as to make it impossible for the President to sign. That is why our Government is likely to shut down on Tuesday. That is why the economy of the United States is likely to face some roils and turmoil shortly thereafter. The first thing they are going to do is shut the Government down on Tuesday. The next thing they are going to do is help shut the economy down shortly thereafter.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WISE. I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I just noticed, with the cold weather approaching, and that is why I said we need to talk to the working Americans, that the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program is going to be drastically impacted. Senior citizens, working single parents with children in these cold climates will not get the assistance they can get if this crisis comes to be.

Mr. WISE. The gentlewoman is quite correct. In Texas, as in West Virginia, we just had our first snowfall, and the low-income energy assistance is drastically cut back, and of course, as she has pointed out many times on the floor, one of their measures they want

to tack on is to increase the Medicare part B premium from $42 to $55.

Ms. PRYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have enough faith in my President that he will not allow this to happen, and I urge my friends on the other side to encourage the President not to let this happen.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN].

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, the last time that we had a similar debt ceiling crisis was during the Reagan administration. It was because of the very deep tax cuts that were enacted earlier in the decade. The folly of some of those tax cuts has been outlined in the book written by President Reagan's budget director, David Stockman, called ''The Triumph of Politics,'' so I will not go into that, but we have a somewhat similar situation now.

At that time, what we did was to come up with a number of mechanisms to avoid a crisis occurring again. The problem with that debt ceiling bill is that it takes away the President's ability to avert such a crisis. It deliberately repeals those provisions, and thus ties his hands. That is the biggest objection to the debt ceiling bill, as far as I am concerned.

What will happen as a result is that Federal retirees will lose from their trust fund, about $3.5 million a day. We have a letter from the experts that are in charge of the board that oversees those trust funds. It is a nonpartisan board. Their opinion was requested by the Republican chairman of the Subcommittee on Civil Service of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. They wrote back and said Federal retirees will lose $3.35 million a day if this debt ceiling bill is passed.

Another thing it does is to prevent the President from being able to reimburse those trust funds, so when we look into this bill, it is an irresponsible bill. The American public deserves better.

The SPEAKER pro tempore [Mr. HAYWORTH]. The Chair would inform the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HALL] that he has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would say that this should be a very simple bill. Normally in the past when we pass a simple debt extension, it is two pages, maximum. They start off at 6 pages, that is not too bad, but at 10:30 about 1½ nights ago or 2 nights ago, with all these amendments, including regulatory reform, habeas corpus, it went up to well over 300 pages. Nobody had read the amendments, nobody understood the bill. I am almost positive there has not been anybody read this bill since it was increased to 350 pages in the past 2 days.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge defeat of the rule, and defeat, certainly, of the Senate amendment.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, through the years we have borrowed and borrowed and borrowed. When the Secretary of Treasury calls and says, ''We need more money,'' we pass a two-page debt ceiling extension and we give him more money. The crux of the issue is that unless Washington agrees to balance the budget, we will no longer say yes when the Secretary calls. We will say balance the budget before we give more money. it is as simple as that.

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

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the vote by the yeas and nays on House Resolution 261, which will be taken immediately after this vote on House Resolution 262.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 220, nays 185, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 783]

YEAS—220

Allard
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baker (CA)
Baker (LA)
Ballenger
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Bereuter
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bliley
Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Brownback
Bryant (TN)
Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Chrysler
Clinger
Coble
Coburn
Collins (GA)
Combest
Cooley
Crane
Crapo
Cremeans
Cubin
Cunningham
Deal
DeLay
Diaz-Balart
Doolittle
Dornan
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
English
Ensign
Everett
Ewing
Fawell
Fields (TX)
Flanagan
Foley
Fowler
Fox
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frisa
Funderburk
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Goodlatte
Goodling
Goss
Graham
Greenwood
Gunderson
Gutknecht
Hall (TX)
Hancock
Hansen
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Heineman
Herger
Hilleary
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hoke
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kasich
Kelly
Kim
King
Kingston
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Linder
Livingston
LoBiondo
Longley
Lucas
Manzullo
Martini
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McInnis
McKeon
Metcalf
Meyers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Molinari
Moorhead
Morella
Myers
Myrick
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Oxley
Packard
Parker
Paxon
Petri
Pombo
Porter
Portman
Pryce
Quinn
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Riggs
Roberts
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roth
Royce
Salmon
Sanford
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schiff
Seastrand
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shaw
Skeen
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Stearns
Stockman
Stump
Talent
Tate
Tauzin
Taylor (NC)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Upton
Vucanovich
Waldholtz
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Zeliff
Zimmer

NAYS—185

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Andrews
Baesler
Baldacci
Barcia
Barrett (WI)
Becerra
Beilenson
Bentsen
Bevill
Bishop
Bonior
Borski
Brewster
Browder
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant (TX)
Cardin
Chapman
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coleman
Collins (IL)
Collins (MI)
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Danner
Davis
de la Garza
DeFazio
DeLauro
Dellums
Deutsch
Dicks
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doyle
Durbin
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Evans
Farr
Fattah
Fazio
Filner
Flake
Foglietta
Forbes
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Furse
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Geren
Gibbons
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hamilton
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hefner
Hilliard
Hinchey
Holden
Hoyer
Jackson-Lee
Jacobs
Jefferson
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Kanjorski
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kleczka
Klink
Lantos
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lincoln
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Markey
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McDermott
McHale
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Mfume
Miller (CA)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moran
Murtha
Nadler
Neal
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Pallone
Pastor
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Poshard
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Richardson
Rivers
Roemer
Rose
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Sanders
Sawyer
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Serrano
Shays
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skelton
Slaughter
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Stokes
Stupak
Tanner
Taylor (MS)
Tejeda
Thompson
Thurman
Torres
Towns
Traficant
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Volkmer
Ward
Waters
Watt (NC)
Williams
Wilson
Wise
Woolsey
Wyden
Wynn
Yates

NOT VOTING—27

Berman	Klug	Quillen
Boucher	LaFalce	Shuster
Buyer	Lewis (CA)	Studds
Cox	Martinez	Thomas
Dickey	McHugh	Thornton
Dingell	McIntosh	Torricelli
Fields (LA)	Owens	Tucker
Johnston	Peterson (FL)	Waxman
Kaptur	Pickett	Weldon (PA)

☐ 1212

Mr. MILLER of California changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 783, I was unavoidably detained outside the Chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea.''

☐ 1215

REQUEST TO DISCHARGE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 118, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be discharged from further consideration of House Joint Resolution 118, a clean continuing resolution, and ask its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAYWORTH). Under the guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, and procedures recorded on page 534 of the House Rules Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the gentleman's request until it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I hope it is soon cleared, because that is what we need to do to avoid the Government shutting down on Monday.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5, rule I, the Chair announces that he will reduce to a minimum of 5 minutes the period of time within which a vote by electronic device may be taken on the resolution on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTION TO DISPOSE OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 115, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of agreeing to House Resolution 261, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 223, nays 182, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 784]

YEAS—223

Allard	Frelinghuysen	Morella
Archer	Frisa	Myers
Armey	Funderburk	Myrick
Bachus	Gallegly	Nethercutt
Baker (CA)	Ganske	Neumann
Baker (LA)	Gekas	Ney
Ballenger	Gilchrest	Norwood
Barr	Gillmor	Nussle
Barrett (NE)	Gilman	Oxley
Bartlett	Goodlatte	Packard
Barton	Goodling	Parker
Bass	Goss	Paxon
Bateman	Graham	Petri
Bereuter	Greenwood	Pombo
Bilbray	Gunderson	Porter
Bilirakis	Gutknecht	Portman
Bliley	Hall (TX)	Pryce
Blute	Hansen	Quinn
Boehlert	Hastert	Radanovich
Boehner	Hastings (WA)	Ramstad
Bonilla	Hayes	Regula
Bono	Hayworth	Riggs
Brewster	Hefley	Roberts
Brownback	Heineman	Rogers
Bryant (TN)	Herger	Rohrabacher
Bunn	Hilleary	Ros-Lehtinen
Bunning	Hobson	Roth
Burr	Hoekstra	Royce
Burton	Hoke	Salmon
Callahan	Horn	Sanford
Calvert	Hostettler	Saxton
Camp	Houghton	Scarborough
Canady	Hunter	Schaefer
Castle	Hutchinson	Schiff
Chabot	Hyde	Seastrand
Chambliss	Inglis	Sensenbrenner
Chenoweth	Istook	Shadegg
Christensen	Johnson (CT)	Shaw
Chrysler	Johnson, Sam	Skeen
Clinger	Jones	Smith (MI)
Coble	Kasich	Smith (NJ)
Coburn	Kelly	Smith (TX)
Collins (GA)	Kim	Smith (WA)
Combest	King	Solomon
Cooley	Kingston	Souder
Cox	Knollenberg	Spence
Crane	Kolbe	Stearns
Crapo	LaHood	Stockman
Cremeans	Largent	Stump
Cubin	Latham	Talent
Cunningham	LaTourette	Tate
Deal	Laughlin	Tauzin
DeLay	Lazio	Taylor (NC)
Diaz-Balart	Leach	Thomas
Doolittle	Lewis (KY)	Thornberry
Dornan	Lightfoot	Torkildsen
Dreier	Linder	Upton
Duncan	Livingston	Vucanovich
Dunn	LoBiondo	Waldholtz
Ehlers	Longley	Walker
Ehrlich	Lucas	Walsh
Emerson	Manzullo	Wamp
English	Martini	Watts (OK)
Ensign	McCollum	Weldon (FL)
Everett	McCrery	Weller
Ewing	McDade	White
Fawell	McInnis	Whitfield
Fields (TX)	McIntosh	Wicker
Flanagan	McKeon	Wolf
Foley	Metcalf	Young (AK)
Forbes	Meyers	Young (FL)
Fowler	Mica	Zeliff
Fox	Miller (FL)	Zimmer
Franks (CT)	Molinari	
Franks (NJ)	Moorhead	

NAYS—182

Abercrombie	Barrett (WI)	Bonior
Ackerman	Becerra	Borski
Andrews	Beilenson	Browder
Baesler	Bentsen	Brown (CA)
Baldacci	Bevill	Brown (FL)
Barcia	Bishop	Brown (OH)
Bryant (TX)	Hinchey	Payne (VA)
Cardin	Holden	Pelosi
Chapman	Hoyer	Peterson (MN)
Clay	Jackson-Lee	Pomeroy
Clayton	Jacobs	Poshard
Clement	Jefferson	Rahall
Clyburn	Johnson (SD)	Rangel
Coleman	Johnson, E. B.	Reed
Collins (IL)	Kanjorski	Richardson
Collins (MI)	Kennedy (MA)	Rivers
Condit	Kennedy (RI)	Roemer
Conyers	Kennelly	Rose
Costello	Kildee	Roukema
Coyne	Kleczka	Roybal-Allard
Cramer	Klink	Rush
Danner	Lantos	Sabo
Davis	Levin	Sanders
de la Garza	Lewis (GA)	Sawyer
DeFazio	Lincoln	Schroeder
DeLauro	Lipinski	Schumer
Dellums	Lofgren	Scott
Deutsch	Lowey	Serrano
Dicks	Luther	Shays
Dixon	Maloney	Sisisky
Doggett	Manton	Skaggs
Dooley	Markey	Skelton
Doyle	Mascara	Slaughter
Durbin	Matsui	Spratt
Edwards	McCarthy	Stark
Engel	McDermott	Stenholm
Eshoo	McHale	Stokes
Evans	McKinney	Stupak
Farr	McNulty	Tanner
Fattah	Meehan	Taylor (MS)
Fazio	Meek	Tejeda
Filner	Menendez	Thompson
Flake	Mfume	Thurman
Foglietta	Miller (CA)	Torres
Frank (MA)	Minge	Towns
Frost	Mink	Traficant
Furse	Moakley	Velazquez
Gejdenson	Mollohan	Vento
Gephardt	Montgomery	Visclosky
Geren	Moran	Volkmer
Gibbons	Murtha	Ward
Gonzalez	Nadler	Waters
Gordon	Neal	Watt (NC)
Green	Oberstar	Williams
Gutierrez	Obey	Wilson
Hall (OH)	Olver	Wise
Hamilton	Ortiz	Woolsey
Harman	Orton	Wyden
Hastings (FL)	Pallone	Wynn
Hefner	Pastor	Yates
Hilliard	Payne (NJ)	

NOT VOTING—27

Berman	Kaptur	Quillen
Boucher	Klug	Shuster
Buyer	LaFalce	Studds
Dickey	Lewis (CA)	Thornton
Dingell	Martinez	Tiahrt
Fields (LA)	McHugh	Torricelli
Ford	Owens	Tucker
Hancock	Peterson (FL)	Waxman
Johnston	Pickett	Weldon (PA)

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Ms. WATERS changed her vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1963

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 1963, and to delete my name from subsequent references and printings of the bill.

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

There was no objection.