

I am proud that this body has come together in a bipartisan fashion to produce this legislation that is worthy of our support. This conference report before us makes positive steps towards ensuring that the millions of Americans who are in need of health insurance will be able to afford and keep it.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, in the last Congress, President Clinton set out to reform health care by taking decision making power away from the individual and placing it in the hands of a centralized bureaucracy. As a member of the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, I am proud to be a part of the Congress that today is taking important steps towards reforming our health care system by taking power away from the bureaucrats and giving it back to individuals.

For example, the creation of Medical Savings Accounts [MSA's] will give individuals more rights and more responsibilities regarding their health care. I have been a strong supporter of MSA's, and I am pleased that Senate Democrats have agreed with the House and included MSA's in the conference report.

It should be noted that this is not a perfect bill by any means. I find it unfortunate that malpractice reform was dropped, I believe the MSA experiment is too restrictive, and I am concerned about the impact that guaranteed issue will have on the market as a whole. While there are unquestionably further improvements that can be made in our system and even in this bill, we are taking a major step forward.

When coupled with preexisting condition and portability reform, I believe MSA's and other provisions in this compromise represent a dramatic, but carefully measured reform of our health care delivery system. It is one that should be approved by Congress, applauded by pundits, welcomed by the American public, and signed by the President.

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the conference report to H.R. 3103, the Health Coverage and Affordability Act of 1996, of which I am a cosponsor.

Today, we are taking a long overdue step to help working class families across America, and in my home district of Long Island to acquire and keep their health care coverage.

For far too long, many Americans have worried that losing a job or having a preexisting condition would jeopardize the portability of their health insurance.

Because of this bill, workers will continue to have coverage if they change or lose their job—even with preexisting conditions.

As a result of our efforts today, health care will become more affordable. H.R. 3103 tackles the problem created by rampant fraud and lawsuit abuse that drives up the cost, and will increase penalties for those who commit fraud and abuse. Importantly, this bill also increases the health insurance deduction for self-employed individuals from 30 percent to 80 percent by 2006, and allows taxpayers to make tax-deductible contributions to a medical savings account.

An important feature of H.R. 3103 which Representative NANCY JOHNSON and myself championed, is a provision which will eliminate discrimination based on genetic information. This would allow thousands of men and women to undergo genetic testing needed to preserve their health without fear of losing

their health insurance or not being able to acquire it. This protection is essential for the women of Long Island, where instances of breast cancer are among the highest in the country. With H.R. 3103 in place, these women can be tested for BRCA-1, a gene linked to the disease, without fear of losing the insurance needed to meet their medical needs. Hopefully some of this testing may provide information regarding the cause of this disease, or a potential cure.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and these reforms which will ease some of those worries of families who are already being squeezed by high taxes and falling wages by ensuring availability, affordability, and accountability to those who received health care through their jobs. The American people deserve this and we owe it to them to pass it by a wide bipartisan margin.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the conference report.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 7 of rule XV, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 5 of the rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed until the end of the vote on the conference report on H.R. 3517.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3517, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the vote on the conference report on H.R. 3517.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 7 of rule XV, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This vote will be followed by a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 396, nays 26, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 394]

YEAS—396

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allard
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker (CA)
Baker (LA)
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Beilenson
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Bevill

Bilbray
Billirakis
Bishop
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boucher
Brewster
Browder
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Bryant (TN)
Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert

Camp
Canady
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Chrysler
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clinger
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Coleman
Collins (GA)
Combust
Condit
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane

Crapo
Creameans
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis
de la Garza
Deal
DeFazio
DeLauro
DeLay
Dellums
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Dornan
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Durbin
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Fawell
Fazio
Fields (LA)
Fields (TX)
Filner
Flake
Flanagan
Foglietta
Foley
Forbes
Fowler
Fox
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frisa
Frost
Funderburk
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Geren
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Green (TX)
Greene (UT)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hancock
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Heineman
Herger
Hilleary
Hinchee
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hoke
Holden

Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jacobs
Jefferson
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kim
King
Kingston
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
LaHood
Lantos
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Longley
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Manzullo
Martinez
Martini
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Metcalf
Meyers
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (CA)
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Molinari
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moorhead
Moran
Morella
Murtha
Myers
Myrick
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood

Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Parker
Pastor
Paxon
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (FL)
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pickett
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Poshard
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Reed
Regula
Richardson
Riggs
Rivers
Roberts
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rose
Roth
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Salmon
Sanders
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schiff
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Seastrand
Serrano
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Shuster
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stearns
Stenholm
Stockman
Stokes
Stump
Stupak
Talent
Tanner
Tate
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Tejeda
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thornton
Thurman
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Torres
Torricelli
Towns

Traficant
Velázquez
Vento
Visclosky
Volkmer
Vucanovich
Walker
Walsh
Wamp

Ward
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
White
Whitfield
Wicker

Williams
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wynn
Young (AK)
Zeliff
Zimmer

DeLauro
DeLay
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Dooley
Doolittle
Dornan
Doyle
Dreier
Dunn
Durbin
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Evans
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Fawell
Fazio
Fields (LA)
Fields (TX)
Filner
Flake
Flanagan
Foglietta
Foley
Forbes
Fox
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frisa
Frost
Funderburk
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Geren
Gibbons
Gilchrist
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Graham
Green (TX)
Greene (UT)
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Heineman
Herger
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hobson
Hoke
Holden
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jacobs
Jefferson
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (SD)

Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Johnston
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kim
King
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
Lantos
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Longley
Lowe
Lucas
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Martini
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McHale
McHugh
McIntosh
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Metcalf
Millender
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Molinari
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moran
Morella
Murtha
Myers
Myrick
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Parker

Pastor
Paxon
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Peterson (FL)
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Poshard
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Regula
Richardson
Riggs
Rivers
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rose
Roth
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Sanders
Sawyer
Saxton
Schiff
Scott
Seastrand
Serrano
Shaw
Shuster
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stark
Stokes
Stupak
Tanner
Tate
Tauzin
Tejeda
Thomas
Thompson
Thurman
Torres
Towns
Traficant
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Vucanovich
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Ward
Waters
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
White
Whitfield
Wicker

Everett
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gillmor
Gilman
Goss
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hancock
Hefley
Hefner
Hilleary
Hoekstra
Inglis
Royce
Klug
LaHood
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Lofgren
McInnis

Meyers
Mica
Miller (CA)
Moorhead
Nadler
Owens
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pickett
Ramstad
Roberts
Roemer
Roukema
Royce
Salmon
Sanford
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schroeder
Schumer
Sensenbrenner

Shadegg
Shays
Solomon
Stearns
Stenholm
Stockman
Stump
Talent
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Thornberry
Thornton
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Torrice
Upton
Volkmer
Weller
Williams
Zimmer

NAYS—26

Barrett (WI)
Brown (OH)
Bryant (TX)
Campbell
Collins (IL)
Collins (MI)
Conyers
Cooley
Frank (MA)

Gutierrez
Johnston
Kleczka
Klug
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren
Markey
Nadler
Owens

Roemer
Royce
Sensenbrenner
Stark
Upton
Waters
Weller
Yates

NOT VOTING—11

Brownback
Chapman
Dickey
Ford

Gunderson
Hilliard
Lincoln
McDade

Studds
Wilson
Young (FL)

□ 2047

Messrs. BRYANT of Texas, OWENS, AND LEWIS of Georgia changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. FATTAH and Mr. MINGE changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Without objection, House Resolution 497 is laid on the table.

There was no objection.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3845, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HAYWORTH). The pending business is the vote on the conference report on H.R. 3845.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the conference report.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 7 of rule XV, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 330, nays 91, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 395]

YEAS—330

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Army
Bachus
Baker (LA)
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Beilenson
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Bevill
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Bliley
Blumenauer

Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boucher
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Bryant (TN)
Bryant (TX)
Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Calvert
Camp
Candady
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Christensen

Chrysler
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clinger
Clyburn
Coburn
Coleman
Collins (IL)
Collins (MI)
Conyers
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Crane
Cremeans
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis
de la Garza
Deal

DeLauro
DeLay
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Dooley
Doolittle
Dornan
Doyle
Dreier
Dunn
Durbin
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Evans
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Fawell
Fazio
Fields (LA)
Fields (TX)
Filner
Flake
Flanagan
Foglietta
Foley
Forbes
Fox
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frisa
Frost
Funderburk
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Geren
Gibbons
Gilchrist
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Graham
Green (TX)
Greene (UT)
Greenwood
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Heineman
Herger
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hobson
Hoke
Holden
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jacobs
Jefferson
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (SD)

Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Johnston
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kim
King
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
Lantos
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Longley
Lowe
Lucas
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Martini
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum
McCrery
McDermott
McHale
McHugh
McIntosh
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Metcalf
Millender
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Molinari
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moran
Morella
Murtha
Myers
Myrick
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Orton
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Parker

NAYS—91

Browder
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Carpenter
Chambless
Chenoweth
Coble
Collins (GA)

Combest
Condit
Cooley
Cramer
Crapo
DeFazio
Dellums
Doggett
Duncan

NOT VOTING—12

Brownback
Chapman
Dickey
Edwards

Ford
Gekas
Gunderson
Lincoln

McDade
Studds
Wilson
Young (FL)

□ 2059

Messrs. INGLIS of South Carolina, TORKILDSEN, and COLLINS of Georgia changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

□ 2100

So the conference report was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 395, I happened to be on the telephone at the time that the final vote was being taken. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

CONTINGENT PERMISSION FOR LEATHER BOUND VOLUME ON SPECIAL ORDER IN TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HON. HAMILTON FISH, JR.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that that portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for July 25, 1996, where Members were allowed to pay tribute to our colleague, the late Hamilton Fish, that that portion be leather bound for distribution for Members and the family of Hamilton Fish and that former members be given notice an opportunity to insert their tribute into the leather bound books.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. With the concurrence of the Joint Committee on Printing.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, let me first advise the Members, and I do understand how hard we are all working,