

Combest  
Condit  
Conyers  
Cook  
Cooksey  
Cox  
Coyne  
Cramer  
Crane  
Crapo  
Cubin  
Cummings  
Cunningham  
Davis (FL)  
Davis (IL)  
Davis (VA)  
Deal  
DeFazio  
DeGette  
DeLauro  
DeLay  
Dellums  
Deutsch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dickey  
Dicks  
Dingell  
Dixon  
Doggett  
Dooley  
Doolittle  
Doyle  
Dreier  
Duncan  
Dunn  
Edwards  
Ehlers  
Ehrlich  
Emerson  
Engel  
English  
Ensign  
Eshoo  
Etheridge  
Evans  
Everett  
Ewing  
Farr  
Fattah  
Fawell  
Fazio  
Filner  
Foglietta  
Foley  
Forbes  
Ford  
Fowler  
Fox  
Frank (MA)  
Franks (NJ)  
Frelinghuysen  
Frost  
Furse  
Gallegly  
Ganske  
Gejdenson  
Gekas  
Gephardt  
Gibbons  
Gilchrest  
Gillmor  
Gilman  
Gonzalez  
Goode  
Goodlatte  
Goodling  
Gordon  
Goss  
Graham  
Granger  
Green  
Greenwood  
Gutierrez  
Gutknecht  
Hall (OH)  
Hall (TX)  
Hamilton  
Hansen  
Harman  
Hastert  
Hastings (FL)  
Hastings (WA)  
Hayworth  
Hefley  
Hefner  
Herger  
Hill  
Hilleary  
Hilliard

Moran (KS)  
Moran (VA)  
Morella  
Murtha  
Myrick  
Nadler  
Neal  
Nethercutt  
Neumann  
Hoyer  
Northup  
Norwood  
Nussle  
Oberstar  
Obey  
Olver  
Ortiz  
Oxley  
Packard  
Pallone  
Pappas  
Parker  
Pascrell  
Pastor  
Paul  
Paxon  
Payne  
Pease  
Pelosi  
Peterson (MN)  
Peterson (PA)  
Petri  
Pickering  
Pickett  
Pitts  
Pombo  
Pomeroy  
Porter  
Portman  
Poshard  
Price (NC)  
Pryce (OH)  
Quinn  
Radanovich  
Rahall  
Ramstad  
Regula  
Reyes  
Riggs  
Riley  
Rivers  
Roemer  
Rogan  
Rogers  
Rohrabacher  
Ros-Lehtinen  
Rothman  
Roukema  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Rush  
Ryun  
Sabo  
Salmon  
Sanchez  
Sanders  
Sanford  
Saxton  
Scarborough  
Schaefer, Dan  
Schaffer, Bob  
Schumer  
Scott  
Sensenbrenner  
Serrano  
Sessions  
Shadegg  
Shaw  
Shays  
Sherman  
Shimkus  
Shuster  
Sisisky  
Skaggs  
Skelton  
Slaughter  
Smith (MI)  
Smith (NJ)  
Smith (OR)  
Smith, Adam  
Smith, Linda  
Snowbarger  
Snyder  
Solomon  
Spence  
Spratt  
Stabenow  
Stark  
Stearns

Stenholm  
Stokes  
Strickland  
Stump  
Stupak  
Sununu  
Talent  
Tanner  
Tauscher  
Tauzin  
Taylor (MS)  
Taylor (NC)  
Thomas  
Thompson  
Thornberry  
Thune

Thurman  
Tiahrt  
Tierney  
Torres  
Traficant  
Turner  
Upton  
Velazquez  
Vento  
Visclosky  
Walsh  
Wamp  
Waters  
Watkins  
Watt (NC)  
Watts (OK)

Waxman  
Weldon (FL)  
Weldon (PA)  
Weller  
Wexler  
Weygand  
White  
Whitfield  
Wicker  
Wise  
Wolf  
Woolsey  
Wynn  
Yates  
Young (AK)  
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—20

Bilbray  
Carson  
Costello  
Danner  
Delahunt  
Flake  
Istook  
Kilpatrick  
King (NY)  
Lowey  
Manton  
Owens  
Rangel  
Sandlin  
Sawyer  
Schiff  
Skeen  
Smith (TX)  
Souder  
Towns

□ 1642

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution 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. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I was regretably and unavoidably detained on my way to the House floor this afternoon, and as a result was not present for rollcall votes No. 76 and No. 77—H.R. 1226, the Taxpayer Browsing Relief Act, and House Resolution 109, a sense of Congress on family tax relief.

Had I been present, I would have certainly voted "yea" on both measures.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, because I was unavoidably detained in the 15th Congressional District of Michigan, I was not present at rollcall vote No. 76 and rollcall vote No. 77. Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted "yea" for rollcall vote No. 76 and "yea" for rollcall vote No. 77.

TAX LIMITATION CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the further consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 62) proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with respect to tax limitations.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

□ 1645

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SOL-OMON). The gentleman from Florida [Mr. CANADY] has 36½ minutes remaining, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BARTON] has 19½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. SCOTT] has 43½ minutes remaining.

Mr. CANADY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. STEARNS].

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

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for the tax limitation amendment. What could I say in this short amount of time that would change many Members on that side of the aisle? I thought carefully about it. Did all of my colleagues know, perhaps they heard this before, that the Constitution has been amended 27 times? Perhaps they did not know in the first 4 years of this country's history they amended the Constitution 10 times. Perhaps they did not know this, but at that point they prohibited any taxes at all.

Mr. Speaker, the Founding Fathers did not want to have any taxes. They were interested in perhaps real estate taxes or a sales tax, but they did not honestly believe in taxing up to 39.5 percent, almost 40 percent. When you add State income tax and local taxes, you are talking about for people, some people are paying 55 percent.

Our Founding Fathers 220 years ago, of course, had the foresight to use supermajority for certain things. Impeachment, talking about expelling a Member of Congress, overriding the veto, they foresaw the need for a supermajority. They understood firsthand what could happen with corruption and power. The power to tax is what we are talking about today, the ruination of overtaxation. The gentleman from Texas is simply offering an amendment to slow this process down.

Quite simply, our forefathers fought a war to ensure freedom from unchecked oppression. They fought a war basically to prevent ruination of taxation, which we have today. So the gentleman from Texas is simply trying to stop this by saying let us have a two-thirds majority.

The American people do not like and trust their Government. They have said that over and over again. It is 1997, and the Government needs to be put in check just like the modern-day King George III which we are trying to do today what our forefathers tried to do when they started this country. Over the past 40 years, Congress has continually increased taxes. Since 1981, there have been 19 separate tax increases, in 1993, the largest tax increase in history. It is obvious to anybody who has studied the political landscape, if we do not have this amendment, we will have increased taxes. Mr. Speaker, we increased taxes on airline tickets, and I am ashamed that we passed that vote without a counterbalancing amendment to make it budget neutral.

In 1775, the rallying cry was no taxation without representation. Here we are, over 200 years later, and it has not changed. The American taxpayers are fed up. They are looking at bloated bureaucracy and they want a change.

Daniel Webster once said, the power to tax is the power to destroy. This afternoon, these words ring with resonance on April 15. What we want to do here is very, very simple. We only want to make it harder to raise taxes, to make it just a little bit more difficult