Talent	Towns	Weldon (FL)
Tanner	Traficant	Weldon (PA)
Tauscher	Turner	Weller
Tauzin	Upton	Wexler
Taylor (MS)	Velazquez	Weygand
Taylor (NC)	Vento	White
Thomas	Visclosky	Whitfield
Thompson	Walsh	Wicker
Thornberry	Wamp	Wise
Thune	Waters	Wolf
Thurman	Watkins	Woolsey
Tiahrt	Watt (NC)	Wynn
Tierney	Watts (OK)	Yates
Torres	Waxman	Young (FL)

NAYS—7

Ensign	Paul	Smith (MI)
Gibbons	Royce	
Klug	Sensenbrenner	

NOT VOTING—9

Blumenauer	Meek	Schiff
Gonzalez	Miller (CA)	Stark
Martinez	Molinari	Young (AK)

□ 1213

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCDADE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the further consideration of H.R. 2203, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LATOURETTE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO FILE SUNDRY PRIVILEGED REPORTS

Mr. MCDADE. Mr. Speaker, having cleared this with the minority, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations may have until midnight tonight, July 25, 1997, to file three privileged reports on bills making appropriations for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 1998; the Departments of Labor, Health, and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for fiscal year 1998; and the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for fiscal year 1998.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All points of order are reserved on the bills.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 1119, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1119) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes, with Senate amendments thereto, disagree to the Senate amendments, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

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

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. DELLUMS

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. DELLUMS moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendments to the bill H.R. 1119 be instructed to insist upon the provisions contained in section 1207 of the House bill relating to limitation on payments for cost of NATO expansion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California [Mr. DELLUMS] and the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. SPENCE] will each be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. DELLUMS].

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

During the House's deliberation on the bill, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1119, the Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, the House adopted an amendment offered by my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. FRANK]. That amendment now embodies the provisions contained in section 1207 of the bill.

Very briefly, let me describe that amendment and now the provisions of section 1207. It would place a limit on U.S. costs for handling the expansion of NATO to 10 percent of the total cost, or $2 billion, whichever is lesser, for fiscal years 1998 through 2010.

With respect to background, Mr. Speaker, Congress, the House especially, has for a long time expressed concern regarding the relative shares of meeting the burden of providing European and transatlantic security. It has passed provisions on several occasions to secure increases in European support for U.S. troop nonpersonnel costs, and has a provision, adopted again by overwhelming support on the floor in the House version of the 1998 Defense authorization act, the Frank amendment that I have alluded to earlier.

With NATO expansion looming on the horizon, concern exists regarding the understanding of both the scale of the costs associated with expansion and the distribution of those costs across new and current members of NATO, including the United States.

Let me quickly reiterate, Mr. Speaker, arguments in support of the provisions contained in section 1207, the subject of this motion to recommit conferees.

First, the United States provides disproportionate support for NATO in many capacities, making available naval forces as well as communications, transportation, and logistics capabilities, and strategic nuclear forces. As a result, it pays a substantially larger portion of its GDP on its military account than our European allies.

Second, several of our European allies are wealthy nations and can contribute more to the burdens of the alliance than they currently do.

Third, new members of NATO should be expected to contribute along the terms of existing members, and should not be admitted without the capabilities to contribute across the panorama of dimensions, that would include financial, military, political, and foreign policy, of current members of the alliance.

Fourth, the amounts contained in the amendment do indeed reflect the administration's current estimates of the probable U.S. share. The provisions contained in section 1207 would establish that in law for the period through the year 2010, after which a review can be made of the continuing appropriateness of that level of commitment or restraint.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, legislative initiatives have in the past provided important leverage, as it were, to the U.S. Government in negotiations with NATO partners on burdensharing arrangements.

Mr. Speaker, with those opening and explanatory remarks, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion to instruct conferees of the gentleman from California [Mr. DELLUMS], the distinguished ranking member of the committee. This motion expresses support for section 1207 of H.R. 1119, a provision offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. FRANK] that would ensure that the United States' share of the costs associated with the proposed expansion of NATO does not exceed the administration's projected estimates.

While I believe we want to closely examine the precise wording of this provision, I support its intent, as it addresses a very important aspect of the administration's NATO expansion policy: How much will this policy cost, and who will pick up the cost?

On this point, a recent letter from President Clinton to the committee states that ''all NATO members will share in the cost of NATO enlargement, and the distribution of costs will be in accordance with long-standing financial principles.''

However, at the recent NATO summit in Madrid, French President Chirac declared, and I quote, ''France does not intend to raise its contribution to NATO because of the cost of enlargement.'' At a minimum, this development raises important questions that deserve continued attention and scrutiny by the Congress.