

Chenoweth	Hutchinson	Rahall
Clay	Jackson (IL)	Rangel
Clyburn	Jefferson	Riggs
Collins	Johnson (WI)	Rivers
Combest	Kanjorski	Rodriguez
Condit	Kaptur	Rohrabacher
Conyers	Kildee	Rothman
Costello	Kilpatrick	Roybal-Allard
Coyne	Kingston	Royce
Cummings	Klecza	Rush
Danner	Klink	Sanders
Davis (IL)	Kucinich	Sandlin
Deal	Lampson	Serrano
DeFazio	Lee	Sherman
DeGette	Lewis (GA)	Smith (MI)
DeLauro	Lipinski	Smith (NJ)
Deutsch	LoBiondo	Solomon
Dingell	Martinez	Spence
Doyle	Mascara	Stark
Duncan	McKinney	Stokes
Emerson	McNulty	Strickland
Engel	Meek (FL)	Stump
Evans	Meeks (NY)	Stupak
Fattah	Metcalf	Taylor (MS)
Filner	Millender-	Thompson
Franks (NJ)	McDonald	Thurman
Gallely	Mink	Towns
Gejdenson	Moakley	Trafficant
Gonzalez	Mollohan	Turner
Goode	Ney	Velazquez
Green	Norwood	Vislosky
Hefley	Oberstar	Wamp
Hilleary	Obey	Watts (OK)
Hilliard	Olver	Wexler
Hinchey	Owens	Whitfield
Holden	Pallone	Wise
Horn	Pascrell	Wynn
Hostettler	Payne	Young (AK)
Hunter	Peterson (MN)	

## NOT VOTING—14

Brady (TX)	Murtha	Skelton
Burton	Poshard	Torres
Goss	Pryce (OH)	Waters
Kennelly	Sanchez	Yates
Manton	Schaefer, Dan	

□ 1814

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my immediate family, I was not present during today's floor proceedings. Had I been here, I would have voted "Yea" on rollcall vote number 457; "Yea" on rollcall vote number 458; "No" on rollcall number 459; and "Yea" on rollcall vote 460.

## AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN EN-GROSSMENT OF H.R. 3736, WORK-FORCE IMPROVEMENT AND PRO-TECTION ACT OF 1998

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, in the engrossment of the bill, H.R. 3736, the Clerk be authorized to correct section numbers, cross-references and punctuation, and to make such stylistic, clerical, technical, conforming and other changes as may be necessary to reflect the actions of the House in amending the bill.

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

There was no objection.

## APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON S. 2206, HUMAN SERVICES REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 2206) to amend the Head Start Act, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, and the Community Services Block Grant Act to reauthorize and make improvements to those Acts, to establish demonstration projects that provide an opportunity for persons with limited means to accumulate assets, and for other purposes, with House amendments thereto, insist on the House amendments, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania? The Chair hears none and, without objection, appoints the following conferees:

Messrs. GOODLING, CASTLE, SOUDER, CLAY, and MARTINEZ.

There was no objection.

## SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

## GOP RESPONSE TO AG CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, this body made a commitment to the American farmer. Like a majority of my colleagues, I stood on this very floor during that farm bill debate and promised my farmers that the Federal Government would walk hand in hand with them as our Nation began the transition to a 21st-century-based agricultural economy, such an economy that depends less on government and more on letting hard-working American farmers and ranchers do their best in producing the finest crops and produce in the world.

Congress and the President must hold true to our pledge and remain committed to these free market principles. But, at the same time, the Federal Government must recognize that agriculture, more than any other sector of the economy, is constantly subject to conditions beyond its immediate control.

Unfortunately, this has been evident in recent years as unprecedented weather conditions have pummeled America's farmers, and the effect of these conditions upon America's rural communities has been devastating.

In my home State of Georgia, the most recent study done by the University of Georgia places the 1998 crop losses from forces of nature beyond the control of farmers in the State of Georgia alone at \$767 million. From flood-

soaked cotton last winter to frost-damaged peaches this spring to drought-stricken peanuts this summer, not a single crop has been spared, and the story is the same all across rural America.

The deteriorating state of America's farm economy is a national priority, and I am pleased to see the leadership of this body stepping up to the plate and going to bat for America's farm families. In the absence of presidential leadership in addressing the crisis gripping our rural communities, the Republican majority has taken immediate action to protect our farmers.

Our \$4 billion disaster relief measure will place real money into our farmers' hands at a time of great need. This money can now be used to pay off past operating loans and help our family farms prepare for the future crop years, and this relief package accomplishes this without tearing apart the farm bill and its commitments made to farmers.

Included in the Republican relief measure is 2.25 billion in direct payments to farmers whose crops have been damaged by weather-related disasters, including special funds targeted to farmers who have suffered multi-year crop losses and those suffering severe livestock feed losses. The relief package also contains over 1.5 billion in aid to assist farmers in dealing with the loss of markets and the Clinton administration's inability to keep foreign markets open for our farmers.

This assistance will come in the form of one-time increases in the agricultural marketing transition payments under the 1996 farm bill. While the damage done by the administration's neglect of agricultural trade cannot be fully offset, this assistance will help farmers make it through this temporary market turndown. While the House and Senate Republicans have had their nose to the grindstone in putting together an agriculture relief package, our farmers have only received a cold shoulder and hot air from the Clinton administration on this crisis. Now all of a sudden it is the fourth quarter, and the administration wants to get up off the sidelines and into the game.

While I do welcome the administration in getting off the bench and joining Congress on addressing this extremely important issue, I must ask the current administration, where have you been all year long with respect to our farmers? In fact, just where has this administration been on agriculture for the last 6½ years?

When Congress passed the 1996 farm bill and sent it to President Clinton for signature into law, we joined American farmers in expecting more aggressive trade policies, reduced regulation, lower taxes and increased agriculture research funding. Well, what has President Clinton given the American farmer? No viable trade policy, increased regulations, resistance to tax relief and less funding for agricultural research. Furthermore, the President's travels