

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

As my colleague the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST) has suggested, I would like to thank the participants from the Committee on Agriculture, including the gentleman from Texas (Mr. COMBEST) and also the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) not only for their leadership but for their care and consideration of the men and women who are involved in agribusiness.

Mr. Speaker, I support this rule. I am asking for each one of our Members to support this bipartisan rule and piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, 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 (Mr. NUSSLE). The question is on the resolution.

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

Mr. FROST. 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.

This 15-minute vote will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 422, nays 1, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 458]

YEAS—422

Abercrombie	Brown (FL)	DeFazio
Ackerman	Brown (OH)	DeGette
Aderholt	Bryant	Delahunt
Allen	Burr	DeLauro
Andrews	Burton	DeLay
Archer	Buyer	DeMint
Army	Callahan	Deutsch
Bachus	Calvert	Diaz-Balart
Baird	Camp	Dickey
Baker	Campbell	Dicks
Baldacci	Canady	Dingell
Baldwin	Cannon	Doggett
Ballenger	Capps	Dooley
Barcia	Capuano	Doolittle
Barr	Cardin	Doyle
Barrett (NE)	Carson	Dreier
Barrett (WI)	Castle	Duncan
Bartlett	Chabot	Dunn
Barton	Chambliss	Edwards
Bass	Chenoweth	Ehlers
Bateman	Clay	Ehrlich
Becerra	Clayton	Emerson
Bentsen	Clement	Engel
Bereuter	Clyburn	English
Berkley	Coble	Eshoo
Berman	Coburn	Etheridge
Berry	Collins	Evans
Biggert	Combest	Everett
Bilbray	Condit	Ewing
Bilirakis	Conyers	Farr
Bishop	Cook	Fattah
Blagojevich	Cooksey	Filner
Bliley	Costello	Fletcher
Blumenauer	Cox	Foley
Blunt	Coyne	Forbes
Boehlert	Cramer	Ford
Boehner	Crane	Fossella
Bonilla	Crowley	Fowler
Bonior	Cubin	Frank (MA)
Bono	Cummings	Franks (NJ)
Borski	Cunningham	Frelinghuysen
Boswell	Danner	Frost
Boucher	Davis (FL)	Gallegly
Boyd	Davis (IL)	Ganske
Brady (PA)	Davis (VA)	Gejdenson
Brady (TX)	Deal	Gekas

Gephardt	Luther
Gibbons	Maloney (CT)
Gilchrist	Maloney (NY)
Gillmor	Manzullo
Gilman	Markey
Gonzalez	Martinez
Goode	Mascara
Goodlatte	Matsui
Goodling	McCarthy (MO)
Gordon	McCarthy (NY)
Goss	McCollum
Graham	McCrery
Granger	McDermott
Green (TX)	McGovern
Green (WI)	McHugh
Greenwood	McInnis
Gutierrez	McIntosh
Gutknecht	McIntyre
Hall (OH)	McKeon
Hall (TX)	McKinney
Hansen	McNulty
Hastings (FL)	Meehan
Hastings (WA)	Meek (FL)
Hayes	Meeks (NY)
Hayworth	Menendez
Hefley	Metcalf
Herger	Mica
Hill (MT)	Millender-
Hilleary	McDonald
Hilliard	Miller (FL)
Hinchey	Miller, Gary
Hinojosa	Miller, George
Hobson	Minge
Hoefel	Mink
Hoekstra	Moakley
Holden	Mollohan
Holt	Moore
Hooley	Moran (KS)
Horn	Moran (VA)
Hostettler	Morella
Houghton	Murtha
Hoyer	Myrick
Hulshof	Napolitano
Hunter	Neal
Hutchinson	Nethercutt
Hyde	Ney
Inslee	Northup
Isakson	Norwood
Jackson (IL)	Nussle
Jackson-Lee	Oberstar
(TX)	Obey
Jenkins	Olver
John	Ortiz
Johnson (CT)	Ose
Johnson, E. B.	Owens
Johnson, Sam	Oxley
Jones (NC)	Packard
Jones (OH)	Pallone
Kanjorski	Pascrell
Kaptur	Pastor
Kasich	Paul
Kelly	Payne
Kennedy	Pease
Kildee	Pelosi
Kilpatrick	Peterson (MN)
Kind (WI)	Peterson (PA)
King (NY)	Petri
Kingston	Phelps
Kleczka	Pickering
Klink	Pickett
Knollenberg	Pitts
Kolbe	Pombo
Kucinich	Pomeroy
Kuykendall	Porter
LaFalce	Portman
LaHood	Price (NC)
Lampson	Pryce (OH)
Lantos	Quinn
Largent	Radanovich
Larson	Rahall
Latham	Ramstad
LaTourette	Rangel
Lazio	Regula
Leach	Reyes
Lee	Reynolds
Levin	Riley
Lewis (CA)	Rivers
Lewis (GA)	Rodriguez
Lewis (KY)	Roemer
Linder	Rogan
Lipinski	Rogers
LoBiondo	Rohrabacher
Lofgren	Ros-Lehtinen
Lowe	Rothman
Lucas (KY)	Roukema
Lucas (OK)	Roybal-Allard

NAYS—1

Vento

Royce	Rush
Ryan (WI)	Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)	Sabo
Salmon	Salmon
Sanchez	Sanchez
Sanders	Sanders
Sandlin	Sandlin
Sanford	Sanford
Sawyer	Sawyer
Saxton	Saxton
Schaffer	Schaffer
Schakowsky	Schakowsky
Scott	Scott
Sensenbrenner	Sensenbrenner
Serrano	Serrano
Sessions	Sessions
Shadegg	Shadegg
Shaw	Shaw
Shays	Shays
Sherman	Sherman
Sherwood	Sherwood
Shimkus	Shimkus
Shows	Shows
Shuster	Shuster
Simpson	Simpson
Sisisky	Sisisky
Skeen	Skeen
Skelton	Skelton
Slaughter	Slaughter
Smith (MI)	Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)	Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)	Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)	Smith (WA)
Snyder	Snyder
Souder	Souder
Spence	Spence
Stabenow	Stabenow
Stark	Stark
Stearns	Stearns
Stenholm	Stenholm
Strickland	Strickland
Stump	Stump
Neal	Neal
Stupak	Stupak
Sununu	Sununu
Sweeney	Sweeney
Talent	Talent
Tancredo	Tancredo
Tanner	Tanner
Tauscher	Tauscher
Tauzin	Tauzin
Taylor (MS)	Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)	Taylor (NC)
Terry	Terry
Thompson (CA)	Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)	Thompson (MS)
Thornberry	Thornberry
Thune	Thune
Thurman	Thurman
Tiahrt	Tiahrt
Tierney	Tierney
Toomey	Toomey
Towns	Towns
Trafficant	Trafficant
Turner	Turner
Udall (CO)	Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)	Udall (NM)
Upton	Upton
Velazquez	Velazquez
Visclosky	Visclosky
Vitter	Vitter
Walsh	Walsh
Wamp	Wamp
Waters	Waters
Watkins	Watkins
Watt (NC)	Watt (NC)
Waxman	Waxman
Weiner	Weiner
Weldon (FL)	Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)	Weldon (PA)
Weller	Weller
Wexler	Wexler
Weygand	Weygand
Whitfield	Whitfield
Wicker	Wicker
Wilson	Wilson
Wise	Wise
Wolf	Wolf
Woolsey	Woolsey
Wynn	Wynn
Young (AK)	Young (AK)
Young (FL)	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—10

Dixon	Nadler	Watts (OK)
Hill (IN)	Scarborough	Wu
Istook	Spratt	
Jefferson	Thomas	

□ 1124

Mr. HILLIARD and Mr. RAMSTAD changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

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.

Stated for:

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 458, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NUSSLE). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 375, nays 43, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 459]

YEAS—375

Abercrombie	Callahan	Doolittle
Ackerman	Calvert	Doyle
Allen	Camp	Dreier
Andrews	Campbell	Duncan
Archer	Canady	Dunn
Armey	Cannon	Edwards
Bachus	Capps	Ehlers
Baker	Cardin	Ehrlich
Baldacci	Carson	Emerson
Baldwin	Castle	Engel
Ballenger	Chabot	Eshoo
Barcia	Chambliss	Etheridge
Barr	Chenoweth	Evans
Barrett (NE)	Clayton	Everett
Barrett (WI)	Clement	Ewing
Bartlett	Clyburn	Farr
Barton	Coble	Fattah
Bass	Coburn	Fletcher
Bateman	Collins	Foley
Becerra	Combest	Forbes
Bentsen	Condit	Ford
Bereuter	Conyers	Fossella
Berkley	Cook	Fowler
Berman	Cooksey	Frank (MA)
Berry	Cox	Franks (NJ)
Biggert	Coyne	Frelinghuysen
Bilbray	Cramer	Frost
Bilirakis	Crowley	Gallegly
Bishop	Cummings	Ganske
Blagojevich	Cunningham	Gejdenson
Bliley	Danner	Gekas
Blumenauer	Davis (FL)	Gephardt
Blunt	Davis (IL)	Gilchrist
Boehlert	Davis (VA)	Gillmor
Boehner	Deal	Gilman
Bonilla	DeGette	Gonzalez
Bonior	Delahunt	Goode
Bono	DeLauro	Goodlatte
Boucher	DeMint	Goodling
Boyd	Deutsch	Goss
Brady (TX)	Diaz-Balart	Graham
Brown (FL)	Dickey	Granger
Bryant	Dicks	Green (TX)
Burr	Dingell	Greenwood
Burton	Doggett	Hall (OH)
Buyer	Dooley	Hall (TX)

Hansen	McGovern	Sandlin
Hastings (FL)	McHugh	Sanford
Hastings (WA)	McInnis	Sawyer
Hayes	McIntosh	Saxton
Hayworth	McIntyre	Schakowsky
Hefley	McKeon	Scott
Herger	McKinney	Sensenbrenner
Hill (IN)	Meehan	Serrano
Hill (MT)	Meek (FL)	Sessions
Hinojosa	Meeks (NY)	Shadegg
Hobson	Menendez	Shaw
Hoefel	Metcalf	Shays
Hoekstra	Mica	Sherman
Holden	Millender-	Sherwood
Holt	McDonald	Shimkus
Horn	Miller (FL)	Shows
Hostettler	Miller, Gary	Shuster
Houghton	Minge	Simpson
Hoyer	Mink	Sisisky
Hunter	Moakley	Skeen
Hutchinson	Mollohan	Skelton
Hyde	Moore	Smith (MI)
Inlee	Moran (VA)	Smith (NJ)
Isakson	Morella	Smith (TX)
Jackson (IL)	Murtha	Smith (WA)
Jackson-Lee	Myrick	Snyder
(TX)	Napolitano	Souder
Jenkins	Neal	Spence
John	Nethercutt	Spratt
Johnson (CT)	Ney	Stabenow
Johnson, E. B.	Northup	Stark
Johnson, Sam	Norwood	Stearns
Jones (NC)	Obey	Stump
Jones (OH)	Olver	Stupak
Kanjorski	Ortiz	Sununu
Kaptur	Ose	Talent
Kasich	Owens	Tancredo
Kelly	Oxley	Tanner
Kennedy	Packard	Tauscher
Kildee	Pallone	Tauzin
Kilpatrick	Pascarell	Taylor (NC)
King (NY)	Paul	Terry
Kingston	Payne	Thornberry
Klecicka	Pease	Thune
Klink	Pelosi	Thurman
Knollenberg	Peterson (PA)	Tiahrt
Kolbe	Petri	Tierney
Kuykendall	Pickering	Toomey
LaFalce	Pitts	Towns
LaHood	Pombo	Trafficant
Lampson	Pomeroy	Turner
Lantos	Porter	Udall (CO)
Largent	Portman	Udall (NM)
Larson	Price (NC)	Upton
Latham	Pryce (OH)	Velazquez
LaTourette	Quinn	Vento
Lazio	Radanovich	Vitter
Leach	Rahall	Walden
Lee	Rangel	Walsh
Levin	Regula	Wamp
Lewis (CA)	Reyes	Watkins
Lewis (GA)	Reynolds	Watt (NC)
Lewis (KY)	Rivers	Watts (OK)
Linder	Rodriguez	Waxman
Lipinski	Roemer	Weiner
Lofgren	Rogan	Weldon (FL)
Lowey	Rogers	Weldon (PA)
Lucas (KY)	Rohrabacher	Wexler
Lucas (OK)	Ros-Lehtinen	Weygand
Luther	Rothman	Whitfield
Maloney (CT)	Roukema	Wicker
Maloney (NY)	Roybal-Allard	Wilson
Manzullo	Royce	Wise
Martinez	Rush	Wolf
Mascara	Ryan (WI)	Woolsey
Matsui	Ryun (KS)	Wynn
McCarthy (MO)	Salmon	Young (AK)
McCarthy (NY)	Sanchez	Young (FL)
McCollum	Sanders	
McCrery		

NAYS—43

Aderholt	Hilleary	Ramstad
Baird	Hilliard	Riley
Borski	Hinchev	Sabo
Brady (PA)	Hoolley	Schaffer
Brown (OH)	Hulshof	Slaughter
Capuano	Kucinich	Stenholm
Clay	LoBiondo	Strickland
Costello	Markey	Taylor (MS)
Crane	McDermott	Thompson (CA)
DeFazio	McNulty	Thompson (MS)
English	Miller, George	Visclosky
Filner	Moran (KS)	Waters
Gibbons	Oberstar	Weller
Gutierrez	Pastor	
Gutknecht	Pickett	

NOT VOTING—15

Boswell	Green (WI)	Peterson (MN)
Cubin	Istook	Phelps
DeLay	Jefferson	Scarborough
Dixon	Kind (WI)	Thomas
Gordon	Nadler	Wu

□ 1133

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 459, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

AGRICULTURAL RISK PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NUSSLE). Pursuant to House Resolution 308 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2559.

□ 1135

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2559) to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act, to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers by providing greater access to more affordable risk management tools and improve protection from production and income loss, to improve the efficiency and integrity of the Federal crop insurance program, and for other purposes, with Mr. LATOURETTE in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. COMBEST) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. STENHOLM) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. COMBEST).

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, today we consider H.R. 2559, the Agriculture Risk Protection Act of 1999. This important legislation was approved by a voice vote in the subcommittee and the full committee and enjoys broad bipartisan support from colleagues representing farmers and ranchers from all regions of the country. Equally important, I am pleased to report that this bill fully complies within the budget resolution approved by the Congress earlier this year.

As my colleagues know, this country's farmers and ranchers are not experiencing the prosperity that other Americans enjoy today. Confronted by adverse weather and low prices, they are facing a second year of extreme economic crisis.

Mr. Chairman, there are two ways a farmer or rancher can lose money. That is where a strong farm safety net is needed. The culprits are low prices

and lost production, and, sadly, both of these culprits are at work again this year.

On the price side of the equation, just as examples, cotton is expected to receive the lowest price in 13 years; wheat the lowest in 22 years; and soybeans the lowest in a quarter century. Fortunately, in an effort to avert a financial disaster in farm country, the House and Senate are working together to provide an emergency farm relief package.

Mr. Chairman, I believe the short-term assistance provided in the fiscal year 2000 agricultural appropriations bill is urgently needed and will bring our Nation's farmers and ranchers at least some peace of mind. But make no mistake, ad hoc relief of any kind will not bring about a long-term solution to chronic problems. That is why I have announced the committee's intention to convene a series of hearings early next year to evaluate current and future American farm policy. By providing our farmers and ranchers an opportunity to fully participate in this process, we will steer clear of the kind of fixes in farm policy that are made in haste and ultimately do more harm than good.

On the other side of the equation, there is something Congress can do now about severe crop losses that each year rob farmers and ranchers of their livelihood. After more than 8 months of input from farmers and ranchers on the problems with crop insurance, Congress is in a position to act.

The Federal crop insurance program was created in 1938, but it was not a case where the government intruded on the private sector thinking it could do better. Instead, the program came about because countless private sector attempts at crop insurance had failed miserably. Without a Federal commitment, the widespread losses associated with natural disasters would make something as fundamental as insurance protection simply unavailable to our farmers.

Unfortunately, during its 61 years of existence, this critical program has been both underfunded and seriously undermined by ad hoc disaster. This dual policy has fueled a vicious cycle that has not saved taxpayers money but cost them countless billions. By underfunding the crop insurance program, farmer-paid premiums have been unaffordable, leading to a Nation of underinsured farmers at best and uninsured farmers at worst.

For years, the practical effect of this policy has been that farmers who do not buy crop insurance or buy too little leave Congress little choice but to enact ad hoc disaster bills; and in the following year, farmers who had insured their crops the year before decide not to, trusting that Congress will once again come through.

This vicious cycle has seriously undermined the crop insurance program. It has eroded program participation and fueled the need for Congress to