

Stenholm	Thune	Watt (NC)
Strickland	Thurman	Watts (OK)
Stump	Tiahrt	Waxman
Stupak	Tierney	Weiner
Sununu	Toomey	Weldon (FL)
Sweeney	Towns	Weldon (PA)
Talent	Traficant	Weller
Tancredo	Turner	Wexler
Tanner	Udall (CO)	Whitfield
Tauscher	Udall (NM)	Wicker
Tauzin	Upton	Wilson
Taylor (MS)	Velazquez	Wise
Taylor (NC)	Visclosky	Wolf
Terry	Vitter	Woolsey
Thomas	Walden	Wu
Thompson (CA)	Walsh	Wynn
Thompson (MS)	Wamp	Young (AK)
Thornberry	Watkins	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—15

Bilbray	Gilchrest	Rush
Coburn	Hutchinson	Smith (MI)
Doolittle	Lazio	Vento
Engel	Neal	Waters
Eshoo	Owens	Weygand

□ 1313

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPLANATION REGARDING ROLE IN BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, since 1993, I have served as a member of the Advisory Council of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. In this role I am a volunteer advisor to the Boy Scouts and its national governing organization.

□ 1315

I receive no compensation for my service in this role, and am not reimbursed for expenses incurred in fulfilling the duties of the position.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON, H.R. 4205, FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 7 of rule XX, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. GRAHAM moves to instruct conferees on the part of the House that the conferees on the part of the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill, H.R. 4205, be instructed not to agree to provisions which—

- (1) fail to recognize that the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution guarantees all persons equal protection under the law; and
- (2) deny equal protection under the law by conditioning prosecution of certain offenses on the race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability of the victim; and
- (3) preclude a person convicted of murder from being sentenced to death.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) each will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM).

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

Mr. Speaker, the topic that we are addressing today in the motion to instruct conferees on the DOD bill involves an effort made by Senator KENNEDY in the Senate to attach Federal hate crimes legislation to a bill in the Senate. This issue is now before the House. It is before America.

To Senator KENNEDY's credit and to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK), I would think it is fair, I hope he does not take offense, Senator KENNEDY is one of the last liberal lions. He has roared loudly and he has fought for his position and he was successful in the Senate.

As to my motion to instruct conferees on this matter, I hope people who agree with my position will also raise their voice loudly because it is an honest debate long overdue about exactly what we need to be doing in America when it comes time to punish people and what role the Federal Government has.

There has been a huge departure in the law of the land to the Kennedy amendment. Federal jurisdiction is now available through the Attorney General of the United States in almost every act of criminal violence that may exist in the country if in the mind of the perpetrator and the status of the victim certain people are involved.

I hope we will reject this way of thinking. I hope we will, as a Nation, prosecute vigorously those who with intent, malice aforethought, through the violation of existing State law, hurt human beings in general and that there is no need, objectively speaking, politically speaking, to have a Federal crime that only applies based on the hate of the perpetrator and the status of the victim.

This legislation has a four-part test that would allow the Attorney General to invoke a Federal statute that does not exist today, and the last prong is the Federal interest and hate crime eradication is insufficiently served by a State prosecution. That is all encompassing. That means whatever the Attorney General wants it to mean.

I stand before the House and the country saying that we in America have laws at the State level that apply to everyone. I do not know of any law in this country by any State or any jurisdiction that says we can hurt certain people because of their race, religion, or sexual orientation. That is not a defense. That is not a problem that we are having to deal with in this country.

This is an effort, I believe, to give Federal jurisdiction to expand the role of the Federal Government in a way that will ultimately divide Americans.

The Columbine High School case is a case in point. Two obviously hateful, disturbed young men took it upon themselves to do tremendous violence and damage and murder. Their motives vary. They killed some people because they were jocks. They killed other people because they did not like them personally. They killed some people because of their race. They were twisted minds. They brought a lot of pain and heartache and suffering to many families.

My motion to instruct says simply this, prosecute people not for their motives but for their actions.

Motives are important. They have to intend to kill. If they tie someone to the back of a truck in Texas and they drag them to their death, I do not care why they did it, if they intended to do it, they deserve the fullest and swiftest punishment available.

The Kennedy amendment allows the Federal Government to pick and choose based on the status of the victim. In that case, an African American was dragged to his death because the people involved had hate in their heart. In the State of Texas, one is serving life and two of those folks involved are facing the death penalty. That to me is justice. And that can happen and has happened all over this country.

Using the model that Senator KENNEDY has put forward, eight murders would fall in the classification of hate crimes, nine of the thousand rapes. I would argue to the Members of this House that every rape is a hate crime.

Before I came to this body, I was a prosecutor in the civilian world in the Air Force; and I will assure my colleagues that every woman that has been violated and is forcibly raped, the man involved hated that woman, and I do not care to know any more other than, without their consent, they did a great violence to their body.

In the Texas case, here is what could happen if this law that Senator KENNEDY has proposed goes forward and if we agree to it today. There is an element of the Kennedy Federal legislation that is very curious and potentially very damaging. We are creating two statutes to deal with the same event. The Federal Government, under this legislation, because we are the Federal Government, would have the ability to prosecute the case first if it reached out and grabbed the case.

Let us use the case in Texas for instance. Under the legislation proposed by Senator KENNEDY and this House will be instructing conferees on, the death penalty is not authorized. That is a huge point. The basis of the Kennedy legislation deals with events that really are not real in substance. There are no mass ignoring bodily injure cases based on people's sexual orientation, race, gender, or religious background. That is not a problem in this country. And that is good news.

But here would be the problem if we adopted Senator KENNEDY's way of doing business. The Federal Government, by legal right, would have the