

Limits, in which a rogue radio operator boosted his frequency above allowable limits creating a highway for which an alien appeared on our planet. In the real world, however, Americans who are unfortunate enough to live near these illegal CB radio stations experience only interference with their telephones, televisions and other electronic equipment, a very serious problem. Worst, these transmissions are often profane and occur at all hours of the night and day. This intrusive practice is simply not a neighborhood nuisance, it borders on trespass.

Unfortunately, the Federal Communications Commission does not have the power or resources to adequately police illegal CB radio operators around the country. As a result, victims are left helpless to defend against this growing intrusion to their privacy and the quiet enjoyment of their homes.

The bill before us would protect the American public by allowing local law enforcement officials to enforce existing FCC rules regarding CB radios. Victims of this type of harassment can be given assistance by local authorities to shut down these rogue operators.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important consumer legislation with the improvements that have been described this evening.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), the author of the legislation who has worked tirelessly for many years now to bring this legislation to final action by the House and the Senate.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. TAUZIN) for yielding the time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise in support of this legislation. It has taken a considerable amount of work over several years to reach this point.

It initially arose when a constituent contacted me; he was extremely frustrated, because they were unable to use their radios, television sets, and their cordless telephones, because a neighbor near them was blasting away at 100 watts of CB power when the legal limit is only 5 watts. He had illegally attached a high power amplifier to his CB system.

This person, my constituent, had contacted the police. They were unable to help. They simply said, we do not have jurisdiction. He had contacted State agencies. They also could not help. In both cases, he was told to contact the Federal Communications Commission. When he did so, they said, yes, this person is breaking the law, but we do not have the personnel to go everywhere in the country to take care of this matter. As a result of this situation I have introduced this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I initially thought this constituent's problem was a rather iso-

lated incident. Once I introduced the bill, I heard from individuals and organizations across the country that were encountering the same problem. Since I had apparently hit a hot nerve with a number of members of the public, I decided this bill was worth pursuing.

The Senate has made minor changes to the bill which clarify it and which take care of some concerns of the truckers who, as my colleagues know, use CBs very heavily. They were worried about perhaps being harassed by improper use of this law, but we have taken care of that. I believe it is now in very, very good shape and will serve the purpose for which it was intended.

There will not be any further complications with it; therefore, I urge the Members of the House to concur in the Senate amendments and pass this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I just would like to commend the gentleman from Louisiana (Chairman TAUZIN), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), and another original cosponsor of this bill, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), for the efforts to bring this bill to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I simply want to say thank you to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN), my friend, who has always demonstrated, as the Committee on Commerce often does, a bipartisan spirit to improve the condition of our consumer protection laws.

This certainly is not a bill that is going to reshape the economy of Louisiana or America or Michigan or Maryland, but it nevertheless is an unusually important bill to neighbors who cannot use their telephones and their television sets.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), my friend.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Chairman TAUZIN) for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I simply want to thank the members of the Committee on Commerce, especially the gentleman from Louisiana (Chairman TAUZIN), who has been very helpful in this, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN), and the ranking member (Mr. DINGELL), and, of course, the gentleman from Virginia (Chairman BLILEY), who has also been involved in this. I appreciate their help in all aspects of this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to point out, even while we are going through an awfully hotly contested election and waiting to find out who our next President may be, we are still working here and still improving the state of our Nation's laws and this small, but important area making sure that consumers enjoy their televisions and their radios

and their mobile telephone sets in their homes.

This is an important bill that helps American families in a very special way when they run into this problem. It will give them local redress so they do not have to come all the way to Washington to get help.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS), my friend, for persevering all this year to bring this to final action in this House. I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Chairman BLILEY), because without the assistance of the gentleman from Virginia, obviously, we would not have moved the bill to this point.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), the ranking member of the Committee on Commerce, and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade and Consumer Protection, for their extraordinarily bipartisan cooperation on this and so many communication bills that our committee works on.

Mr. Speaker, again, I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN), my friend, for being here to help us finalize this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN).

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I would only like to say the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. TAUZIN) has put a good perspective on this bill. It does not shake the Earth, but yet it is very important to our constituents to show that we are, in fact, here working, carrying out the public's business.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding me the time.

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. TAUZIN) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 2346.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

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□ 1800

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE) at 6 p.m.