

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I have been enjoying some of the rhetoric I have been hearing from some of my friends on the other side of the aisle today. Clearly, when it comes to a rise in energy prices, the policies of my friends on the left side of the aisle is very simple, and that is called pass the buck.

They talk about the California energy crisis. Who has been in charge in California? A Democratic governor, a Democratic State legislature. Who prevented the power plants from being built over the last decade? A Democratic governor, a Democratic State legislature.

Of course, we at the national level in Chicago are seeing over \$2 gasoline. Why? Because a Democratic administration in the White House failed for 8 years to do anything about energy.

We have a new President that has been in office now for 4½ months, 5 months. He inherited clearly serious energy problems. He has now come forward with an energy proposal which deserves bipartisan support.

The bottom line is we need to conserve. We need to find new domestic sources, and we must reduce our independence on imported oil.

ENERGY CRISIS REQUIRES ACTION

(Mr. BERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, we definitely have an energy crisis in this country. There is no question about it, and it is time for us to find a solution.

It does us no good to try to blame each other. The President and the Republicans put forth their energy policy last week. It calls for more production. We agree with that. It is a partial solution.

We know we are going to have to have increased production. I was disappointed that it did not call for increased production from the OPEC countries on the short term.

We are the greatest economic power on the face of the Earth. And if we can be held hostage by OPEC in this time, then we are not the greatest economic power on the face of the Earth; and we should recognize that and deal with it appropriately.

We know that conservation is the cheapest and quickest way to help our situation. We know that alternative energy sources are important and should be researched and developed as is appropriate. We know that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should do the responsible thing.

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

(Mr. McNULTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, like many Americans, I like to go around bragging about how we live in the freest and most open democracy on the face of the Earth, but freedom is not free.

We paid a tremendous price for it. I try not to let a day go by without remembering with gratitude all of those who, like my brother Bill, made the supreme sacrifice, to remember all of those who, like some of the people I am looking at in this Chamber right now, were willing to put their lives on the line for all that we hold dear.

As we approach Memorial Day in the year 2001, I am going to try to continue to keep my priorities straight and to do every day what I am doing this morning. I thank God for my life. I thank veterans for my way of life.

TRANSPORTATION CONGESTION

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) for his diligent work this week in addressing the increasing problem of transportation congestion in our Nation.

As a Member of Congress who represents a suburban district that has experienced a great deal of growth, I see the importance of a well-maintained and modern transportation system on a daily basis.

The residents of the 10th Congressional District of Illinois consistently ranked transportation needs as one of the primary challenges facing our way of life. Our region is gripped by highway gridlock and exacerbated by continued outward expansion of residential and commercial properties.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's transportation infrastructure is critical to our social and economic vitality. We must continue to improve local commuter rail lines that will bring thousands of automobiles off congested roadways.

It will also help us meet the mandates of the Clean Air Act; and, additionally, we need to invest in high-speed rail that will give an alternative to congested airports.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with the gentleman from Alaska on this matter and thank him for the commitment this week to fighting congestion.

THE JOURNAL

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

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. McNULTY. 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.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 336, nays 71, answered "present" 1, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 147]

YEAS—336

Abercrombie	DeLay	Johnson (CT)
Ackerman	DeMint	Johnson (IL)
Akin	Deutsch	Johnson, Sam
Allen	Dicks	Jones (NC)
Andrews	Dingell	Kanjorski
Armey	Dooley	Kaptur
Baca	Doolittle	Keller
Bachus	Doyle	Kelly
Baker	Dreier	Kennedy (RI)
Baldwin	Duncan	Kerns
Ballenger	Dunn	Kildee
Barcia	Edwards	Kilpatrick
Barr	Ehlers	Kind (WI)
Barrett	Ehrlich	King (NY)
Bartlett	Emerson	Kingston
Barton	Engel	Kirk
Bass	Eshoo	Kleccka
Bentsen	Etheridge	Knollenberg
Bereuter	Evans	Kolbe
Berkley	Everett	LaFalce
Berman	Farr	LaHood
Berry	Fattah	Lampson
Biggert	Ferguson	Langevin
Bilirakis	Flake	Lantos
Bishop	Fletcher	Largent
Blagojevich	Foley	Latham
Blumenuaer	Ford	Leach
Blunt	Fossella	Lewis (CA)
Boehkert	Frank	Lewis (GA)
Boehner	Frelinghuysen	Lewis (KY)
Bonilla	Frost	Linder
Bono	Gallegly	Lipinski
Boswell	Ganske	Lofgren
Boucher	Gekas	Lowe
Boyd	Gibbons	Lucas (KY)
Brady (TX)	Gilchrest	Lucas (OK)
Brown (FL)	Gilman	Luther
Brown (SC)	Gonzalez	Maloney (CT)
Bryant	Goode	Maloney (NY)
Burr	Goodlatte	Markey
Buyer	Gordon	Mascara
Callahan	Goss	Matheson
Calvert	Graham	Matsui
Camp	Granger	McCarthy (MO)
Cannon	Graves	McCarthy (NY)
Cantor	Green (WI)	McCollum
Capito	Greenwood	McHugh
Capps	Grucci	McInnis
Cardin	Gutierrez	McIntyre
Carson (IN)	Hall (TX)	McKeon
Carson (OK)	Hansen	McKinney
Castle	Harman	Meehan
Chabot	Hart	Mica
Chambliss	Hastings (WA)	Millender
Clay	Hayes	McDonald
Clayton	Hayworth	Miller (FL)
Clement	Herger	Miller, Gary
Clyburn	Hill	Mollohan
Coble	Hobson	Moran (KS)
Collins	Hoefel	Moran (VA)
Combest	Holden	Morella
Conyers	Holt	Myrick
Cooksey	Honda	Napolitano
Cox	Hoolley	Ney
Coyne	Horn	Northup
Cramer	Hostettler	Norwood
Crenshaw	Houghton	Nussle
Culberson	Hoyer	Obey
Cummings	Hunter	Ortiz
Cunningham	Hutchinson	Osborne
Davis (CA)	Hyde	Ose
Davis (FL)	Inslie	Otter
Davis (IL)	Isakson	Owens
Davis, Jo Ann	Israel	Oxley
Davis, Tom	Issa	Pascarell
Deal	Istook	Pastor
DeGette	Jackson (IL)	Paul
Delahunt	Jenkins	Payne
DeLauro	John	Pelosi

Pence	Sandlin	Taylor (NC)
Peterson (PA)	Sawyer	Terry
Petri	Saxton	Thomas
Pickering	Scarborough	Thornberry
Pitts	Schiff	Thune
Platts	Schrock	Thurman
Pombo	Sensenbrenner	Tiahrt
Portman	Serrano	Tiberi
Price (NC)	Sessions	Tierney
Pryce (OH)	Shadegg	Toomey
Putnam	Shaw	Towns
Quinn	Shays	Trafigant
Radanovich	Sherman	Udall (CO)
Regula	Sherwood	Upton
Rehberg	Shimkus	Vitter
Reyes	Shows	Walden
Reynolds	Shuster	Walsh
Rivers	Simmons	Wamp
Rodriguez	Simpson	Watkins
Roemer	Skeen	Watt (NC)
Rogers (KY)	Skelton	Watts (OK)
Rogers (MI)	Smith (MI)	Waxman
Rohrabacher	Smith (NJ)	Weiner
Ros-Lehtinen	Smith (TX)	Weldon (FL)
Ross	Smith (WA)	Weldon (PA)
Rothman	Snyder	Whitfield
Roukema	Soils	Wicker
Roybal-Allard	Spence	Wilson
Royce	Spratt	Wolf
Rush	Stearns	Woolsey
Ryan (WI)	Stump	Wu
Ryun (KS)	Sununu	Wynn
Sanchez	Tauscher	
Sanders	Tauzin	

NAYS—71

Aderholt	Hoekstra	Pomeroy
Baird	Hulshof	Ramstad
Baldacci	Jefferson	Rangel
Bonior	Johnson, E. B.	Riley
Borski	Jones (OH)	Sabo
Brady (PA)	Kennedy (MN)	Schaffer
Brown (OH)	Kucinich	Schakowsky
Capuano	Larsen (WA)	Scott
Condit	Lee	Slaughter
Costello	Levin	Stark
Crane	LoBiondo	Stenholm
Crowley	McDermott	Strickland
DeFazio	McGovern	Stupak
Doggett	McNulty	Sweeney
English	Meeks (NY)	Tanner
Filner	Miller, George	Taylor (MS)
Gephardt	Mink	Thompson (CA)
Green (TX)	Moore	Thompson (MS)
Gutknecht	Neal	Turner
Hastings (FL)	Oberstar	Udall (NM)
Hefley	Olver	Visclosky
Hilleary	Pallone	Waters
Hilliard	Peterson (MN)	Weller
Hinchev	Phelps	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Tancredo

NOT VOTING—24

Becerra	Jackson-Lee	Murtha
Burton	(TX)	Nadler
Cubin	Larson (CT)	Nethercutt
Diaz-Balart	LaTourette	Rahall
Gillmor	Manzullo	Souder
Hall (OH)	McCrery	Velazquez
Hinojosa	Meek (FL)	Wexler
	Menendez	Young (AK)
	Moakley	Young (FL)

□ 1058

Mr. MEEKS of New York changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. MCINNIS changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

□ 1100

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, this is to advise the Members of the schedule for

the rest of the day and the remainder of the week.

Obviously, we are all very excited. We are very pleased about what we did in this Chamber last night with respect to the education of our children. We have an opportunity now, in the final moments of completing a conference report on a tax reduction that is anticipated by the whole Nation, for which we have a commitment by both bodies and the White House, to get that work done this weekend. The Members, of course, are anxious about their own plans with respect to their pending District Work Period time with their constituents and with their families. So let me tell you what I can tell you now.

We will soon be reconvening the conference between our body and the other body. It is, of course, all of our hopes that that can go smoothly and expeditiously, but one can never know. So as it is now, I will be returning to that conference, we will be keeping the Members as posted as we can, as timely as we have any information that might be helpful to you in making your plans. We will get that out to you through our whip notices or otherwise.

It would be my effort to come back to this floor at 5 o'clock with another update, so that at least if we do not have any definitive information before then, you can get some information at that time about what it is we hope to do. Members should be advised, I think as of now, definitely there will be no votes before 7 o'clock tonight. If things go well, it is possible we could return and complete the work on the tax bill this evening. If it is not done this evening, we will get that information to you as quickly as possible and then we would find ourselves looking for and hoping for a chance to complete the work tomorrow.

I would hope, as you all do, that we could do that tomorrow, but we have been through these things before and it is a very big bill. There are many Members in both bodies that have heartfelt interests in the bill. The conference could, in fact, take some time to work all those things out.

So what I would ask the Members to do is, one, be of good cheer. We are doing something important for the Nation. It is difficult, but we are called upon in this body at times to make difficult personal sacrifices.

We will go to the conference, commence with the conference, move as quickly as we can and keep you as well informed as possible. But I can say now you will not expect a vote in this Chamber before 7 o'clock. We will get you updated information by 5 o'clock and you ought to be prepared to remain.

Let me just make the point that it is very clearly the intention of this body and of the other body to not adjourn for the Memorial Day District Work Period until this work is done, the conference is completed in both bodies and sent to the President. So that could mean we would be here throughout the

weekend. I do not believe it will come to that, but we obviously all need to be prepared for that possibility.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, will the distinguished majority leader yield?

Mr. ARMEY. I am happy to yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. RANGEL. When the majority leader refers to the conference, is he talking about the conference that the Speaker selected, you, me, and my chairman, to attend?

Mr. ARMEY. I believe, obviously, I am referring to the conference that was appointed in both bodies to consider the final disposition of the reduction in taxes.

Mr. RANGEL. Will the majority leader yield further?

Mr. ARMEY. I am happy to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. RANGEL. So when you are talking about the conference, that includes me?

Mr. ARMEY. I believe the gentleman from New York was appointed from the Chair just yesterday.

Mr. RANGEL. Will the majority leader yield further?

Mr. ARMEY. I am happy to yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. RANGEL. Then last night, the meeting that took place as relates to the Senate and House bill, we would not call that a conference, now, would we?

Mr. ARMEY. We would call that a meeting where we hoped to get things done. And, obviously, when it becomes time to complete the work, there will be, I am sure, some formal meeting of the conferees, their signatures will be attached, it will be announced to the body, and we will be happy to come back here and make our votes in favor of it and move on to go home and celebrate our good deeds with our constituents back home.

Mr. RANGEL. If the gentleman will yield further, I am just trying to clear up when we are having conferences with Republicans and when we are having conferences as designated by the Speaker, because since you do not intend to really tell us what is going on as a body until 5 o'clock, if the legislative conference is going to take place at 5 o'clock, then I would like to know while you have your conferences leading up to that.

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. RANGEL. Well, you did not answer, though.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1701

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro