

life, reduce drug and alcohol use and improve academic achievement.

Research has shown that mentoring reduces absenteeism from school and drug and alcohol abuse by nearly 50 percent, and also substantially reduces teen pregnancy violence.

Through mentoring, young people gain increased self-esteem and motivation to succeed.

Mentors do not parent. A mentor provides stable, responsible guidance to enable a child or youth to make good, positive decisions.

We should recognize all mentors including younger mentors involved in peer mentoring. It is important to encourage not only adults to become mentors, but also older youth.

When the mentor is an older student not too far in age from the mentee, this transforming relationship affects both young people.

All of us have heard the expression that "it is better to give than to receive;" the mentoring relationship offers the opportunity to two people to enter into this life-changing experience of giving and receiving.

Mr. Speaker, we have both the ability and the responsibility to give all of our children a chance to succeed. Mentoring provides this chance. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this resolution.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the resolution introduced by the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. OSBORNE. This resolution coincides with the President designating January, National Mentoring month and I am pleased to lend my support to this important issue.

The future course of the United States depends on its children and youth. Educated, confident, and nurtured children will make our Nation stronger. Research has shown that mentoring measurably affects young people by increasing school attendance, improving rates of secondary school graduation and college attendance, decreasing involvement with drugs and alcohol, and decreasing violent behavior. Considerable numbers of our Nation's children face difficult circumstances: 1 out of 4 children lives with only 1 parent; 1 out of 10 children is born to teenaged parents; 1 out of 5 children lives in poverty; and 1 out of 10 children will not finish secondary school.

Mentoring is a proven, effective strategy to combat such circumstances by matching a caring, responsible adult with a child to provide guidance, stability, and direction to the child and to build the child's confidence. It is estimated that more than 16,000,000 children in the United States need or want a mentor but mentoring programs nationwide serve at most 750,000 of such children.

Many children throughout the United States face difficult circumstances in their lives and when matched with a caring and responsible adult, positive results ensue. The effects of mentoring include the improvement of school attendance and academic achievement, decreased substance abuse, and reduced violent behavior.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to help create more awareness for the positive benefits of mentoring programs in our Nation.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 330.

I have always believed that mentors and volunteers play an important role in encouraging our nation's youth to excel in academics and in life. Caring relationships with adults can

nurture and empower a child to succeed in areas which otherwise may threaten a child's ability to overcome obstacles.

Mentors and volunteers bridge an important gap between a child's home life and school. We all agree that parental involvement in a child's education is critical to ensuring that student's academic achievement and confidence, but unfortunately, not every child has a parent that is actively involved in his or her life.

Having adult mentors and volunteers present in the schools signals their concern and love for our nation's youth. I am proud to salute the thousands of mentors and volunteers in my congressional district.

The numbers of adults committed to serving our children are astounding—26,005 mentors and volunteers contributed 1,092,957 hours in Pinellas County Schools in 2001. An additional 31,653 mentors and volunteers spent 1,280,898 hours in Hillsborough County Schools, and 13,000 adults contributed over 300,000 hours in Pasco County Schools.

Mr. Speaker, we should do all that we can to encourage mentoring relationships between adults and our nation's youth. The benefits of mentoring relationships are numerous—mentors provide positive role models for children in a world that desperately needs them. This resolution recognizes the importance of mentoring, and I am glad that my colleague has brought our attention to this issue today.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, as an original cosponsor of H. Res. 330, I rise in strong support of this resolution to honor the community service we know as mentoring.

This time-tested method of helping children—particularly at-risk children—to grow and learn benefits all. As the parents of our, my wife and I have been fully engaged as role models and mentors for our own children. There is nothing more fulfilling for us than to work with them to shape their futures and open their minds and hearts to all the possibilities that lay before them. But far too many children do not have this opportunity. One in four children has only one parent, who may not have the time to spend with her son or daughter. One in ten children is born to teenaged parents, who themselves need guidance. These children need a helping hand to come from outside the home.

As we celebrate National Mentoring Month, we should honor the commitment of the men and women who spend time with these kids and help to give them hope for tomorrow. Working one child at a time, they make a real difference in their communities. They keep children off of the streets and out of trouble. They keep drug dealers from finding buyers. They keep gang recruiters from finding new members.

We should also give thanks to those organizations that connect these men and women to the children who need them. Some of these groups are big names we all know and respect, like America's Promise and Big Brothers, Big Sisters and Partnership for a Drug-Free America. Others spring up in communities all across America. They may be a church group or a women's club. Whether the group is large or small, the outcome is the same—children who can smile at their futures again.

I urge all my colleagues to support the mentors in their communities and to support this resolution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 330.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Concurring in the Senate amendment to H.R. 700, by the yeas and nays; and H.R. 2234, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

ASIAN ELEPHANT CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 700.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 700, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 349, nays 23, not voting 63, as follows:

[Roll No. 2]  
YEAS—349

Abercrombie	Boyd	Coyne
Ackerman	Brady (PA)	Cramer
Aderholt	Brady (TX)	Crane
Allen	Brown (FL)	Crenshaw
Andrews	Brown (OH)	Crowley
Armey	Brown (SC)	Cubin
Baca	Bryant	Cummings
Bachus	Burr	Cunningham
Baird	Buyer	Davis (CA)
Baker	Calvert	Davis (FL)
Baldacci	Camp	Davis (IL)
Baldwin	Cannon	Deal
Barcia	Capito	DeFazio
Barrett	Capps	Delahunt
Bartlett	Capuano	DeLauro
Bass	Cardin	DeLay
Bentsen	Carson (IN)	DeMint
Bereuter	Castle	Deutsch
Berkley	Chabot	Diaz-Balart
Berry	Chambliss	Dingell
Biggert	Clay	Doggett
Bilirakis	Clayton	Dooley
Bishop	Clement	Doolittle
Blunt	Clyburn	Dreier
Boehlert	Combest	Duncan
Boehner	Condit	Dunn
Boozman	Conyers	Edwards
Borski	Cooksey	Ehlers
Boswell	Costello	Ehrlich
Boucher	Cox	Emerson